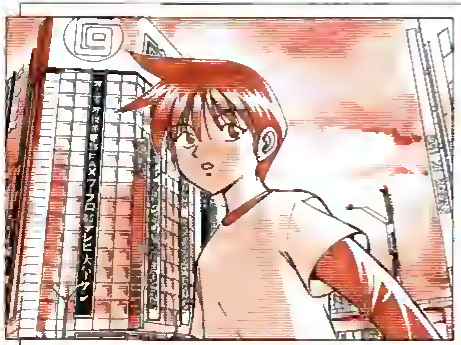


MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

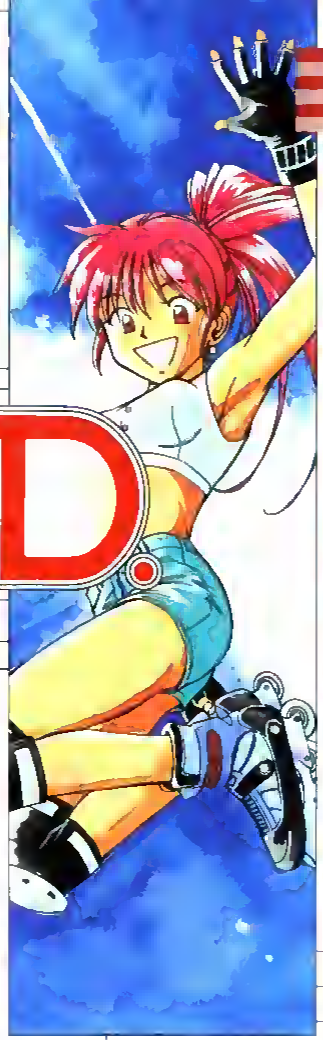
Q.E.D.

……証明終了……

Quod Erat Demonstrandum

加藤元浩

4



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講談社

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Q.E.D.

……証明終了

4

1st, April, 1999

ヤコブの階段

Kana Mizuhara

Quod

Erat

Demonstrandum

4

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

加藤元浩

MOTOHIRO KATOU

講談社

証明終了

Q.E.D. 1
ミネルヴァの梟
銀の匙

Q.E.D. 2
六部の宝
ロスト・ロワイヤル

Q.E.D. 3
ブレイク・スルー
遠せた星図

Q.E.D. 4
1st.April,1999
ヤコブの階段

講談社創業㊿周年記念
【KCフェア】ラッキーナンバー

036130

燈馬君・可奈ちゃんの活躍も4巻目となりました。
今回のコミックスに収められた2本のお話に殺人事件はありません。ですが、それぞれに起こる事件を、二人の知恵と行動力で乗り越える姿を楽しんでいただければと思います。
……加藤元浩

カバーデザイン／朝倉健司

KCGM696

Q.E.D. 4

証明終了

Q.E.D.
証明終了
4

加藤元浩

加藤元浩 講談社 MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

I solve every case
based on clues and evidence

Q.E.D.
証明終了

4

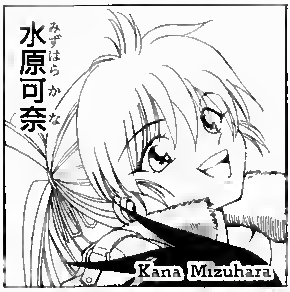
加藤元浩
MOTOHIRO KATOU

contents

1st, April, 1999 ... 5

Jacob's Ladder ... 87

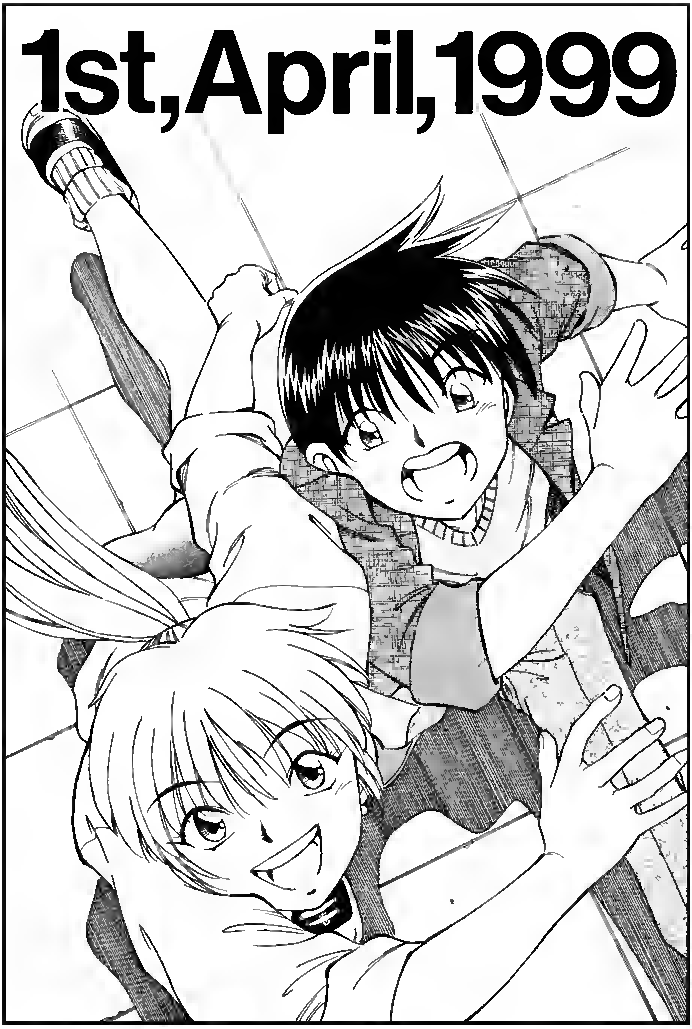
CHARACTERS



燈馬のクラスメイト。刑事を父に持つ。男勝りの行動力と、脳天気なまでの明るさがウリの、健康優良女子高生。

マサチューセッツ工科大学を15歳にして卒業、日本の高校に再入学した超天才児。多方面に豊富な知識を有する反面、人間の感情には疎い。

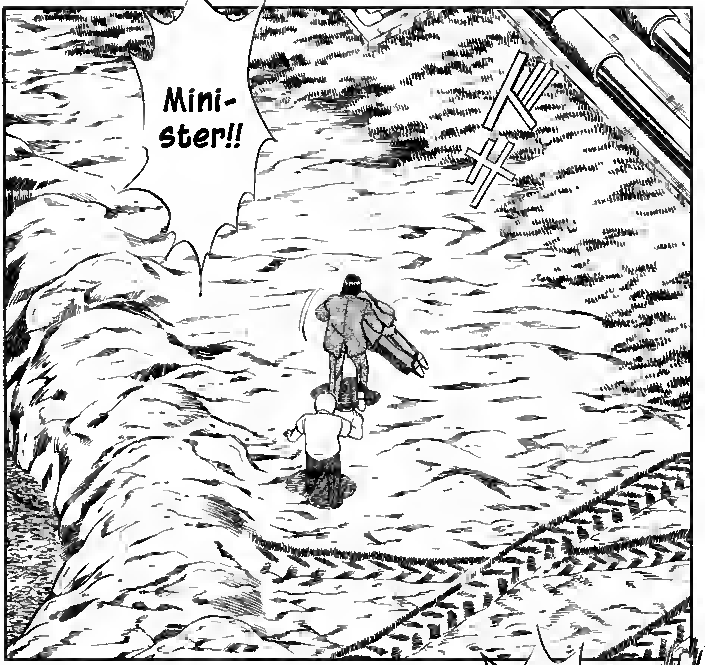
証明終了


1st,April,1999

The kingdom of Clavius
This is the third failure...

The machinery is too advanced. It's quite troublesome for those of us unaccustomed to using it.
It's the aquafarms that receive all the aid from Japan, isn't it?
But if a problem occurs, it takes too much time to figure out the cause...
The amount and temperature of the water is computer-controlled. So there's no problem, under normal conditions...
the losses were immense before we heard back from them.
the Japanese trading firm that holds our contract ...
When we asked for help from D Company

I feel bad for you and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who have both shouldered the burden of the developmental funding...
Clavius's Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs: Cliff Bhaum
Our money is running out. There's no other choice but to close this place...
HAH HAH
!?
Are you all right?
Mini-ster


Mini-
ster!!

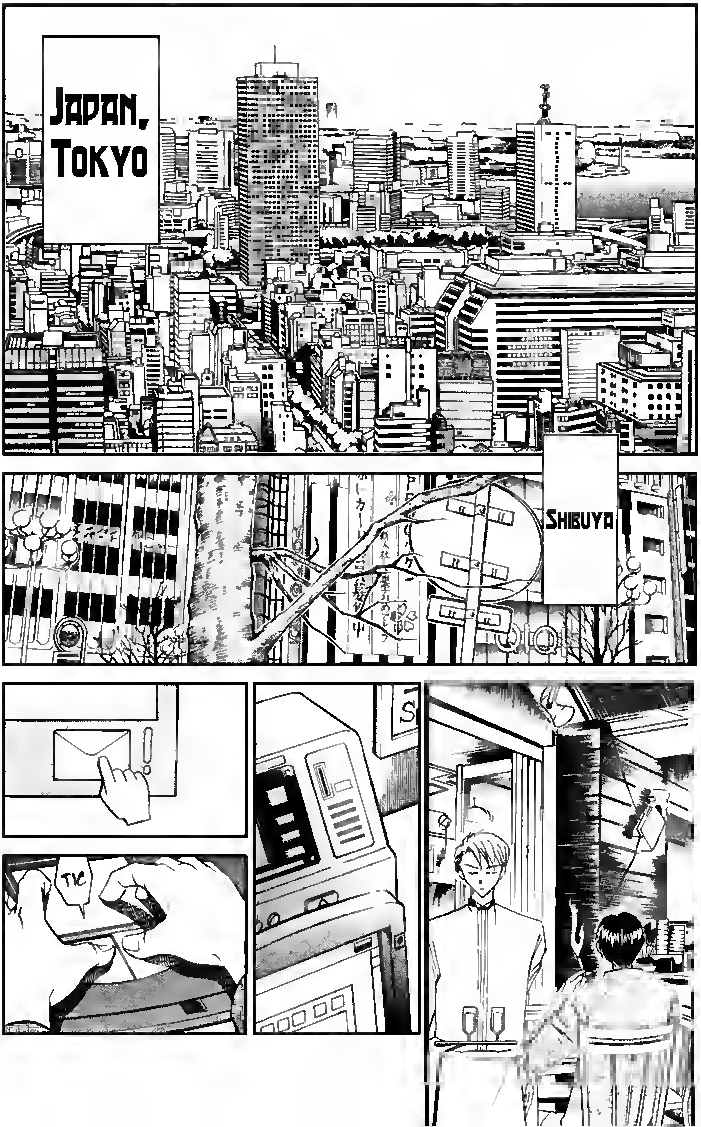
How is he
doing?

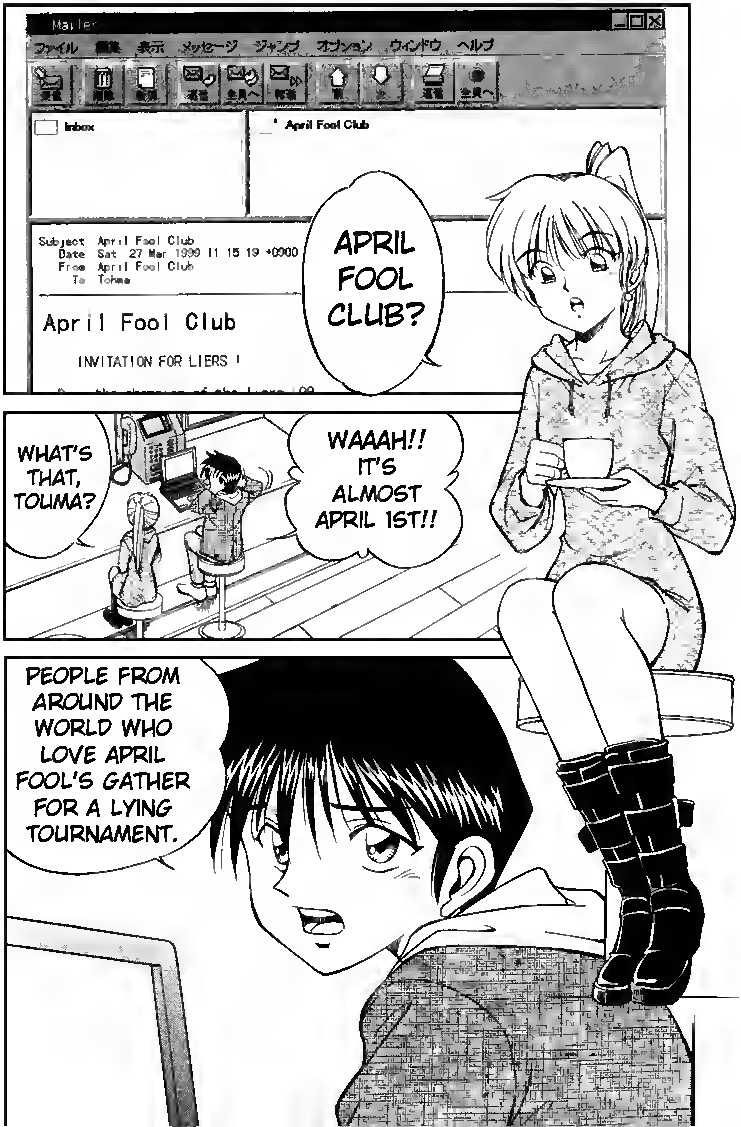
Mini-
ster!!

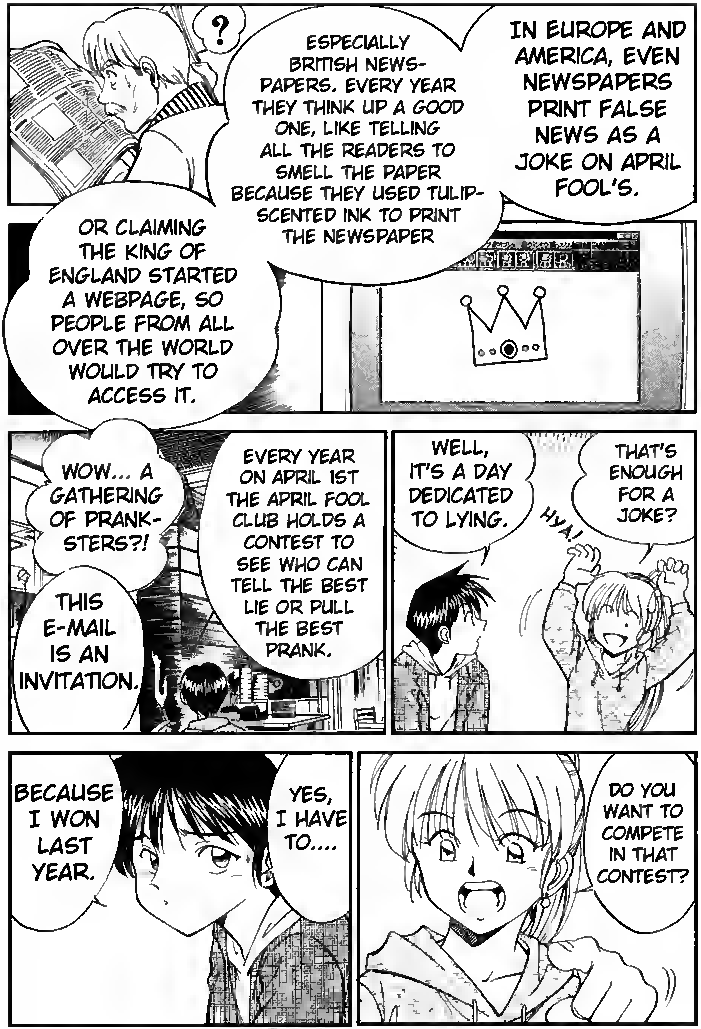
Unfortu-nately...
Seeing the aqua-farm's condition really worried him.
He has an unusually strong sense of responsi-bility ...
It was overwork ...
There's still the problem of repaying the debt for the development aid funds...
Repaying the debt?
Of course.
The aid money from Japan has to be returned, then?
In the end, it's the citizens that pay for our country's development.
As for Official Development Assistance Welfare, it has to be paid back in 20-30 years if it's used for anything other than education.

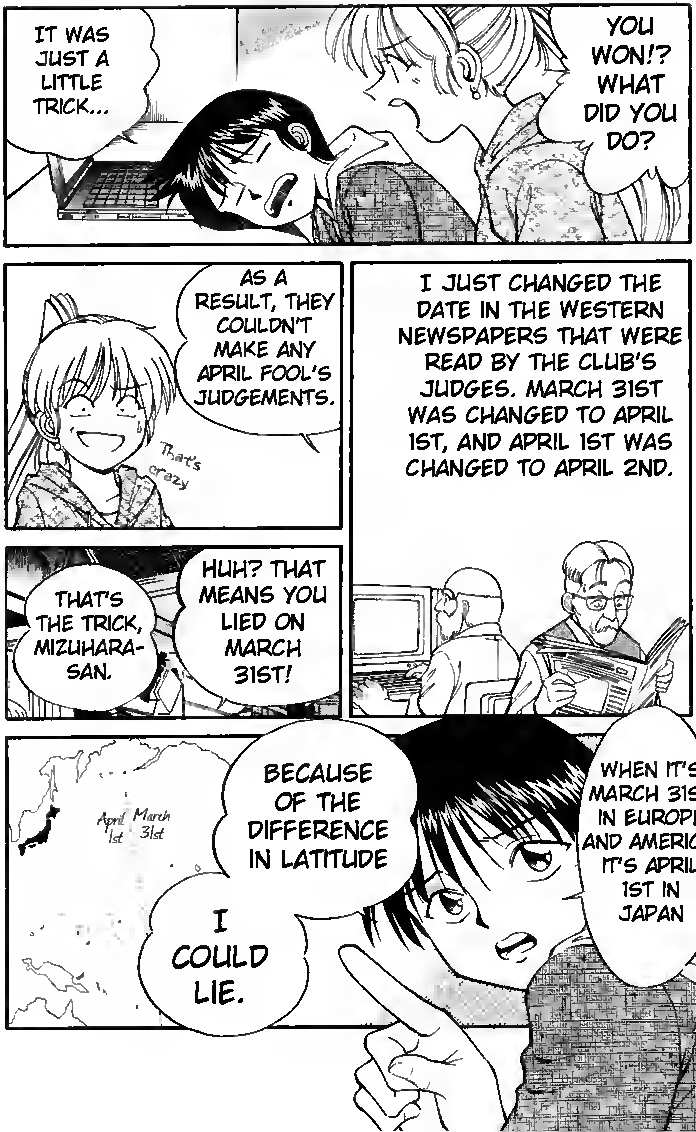
Their consultations hid deals to increase their profits.
It was found out that the Japanese company selected by international bidding to manage the Development Assistance ...
To make matters worse, that Japanese company's "consultations" have been exposed.
Is preying on our country...
In other words, that Japanese company...
Good afternoon!
Mister Bhaum!

Due to illegal deals, high-priced equipment was sold to our country, milking it for its money.
The one responsible for that waste of an aquafarm is D Company.
However, the way things are going...
I'll try to do some-thing...
For the sake of the future of this country and those children.

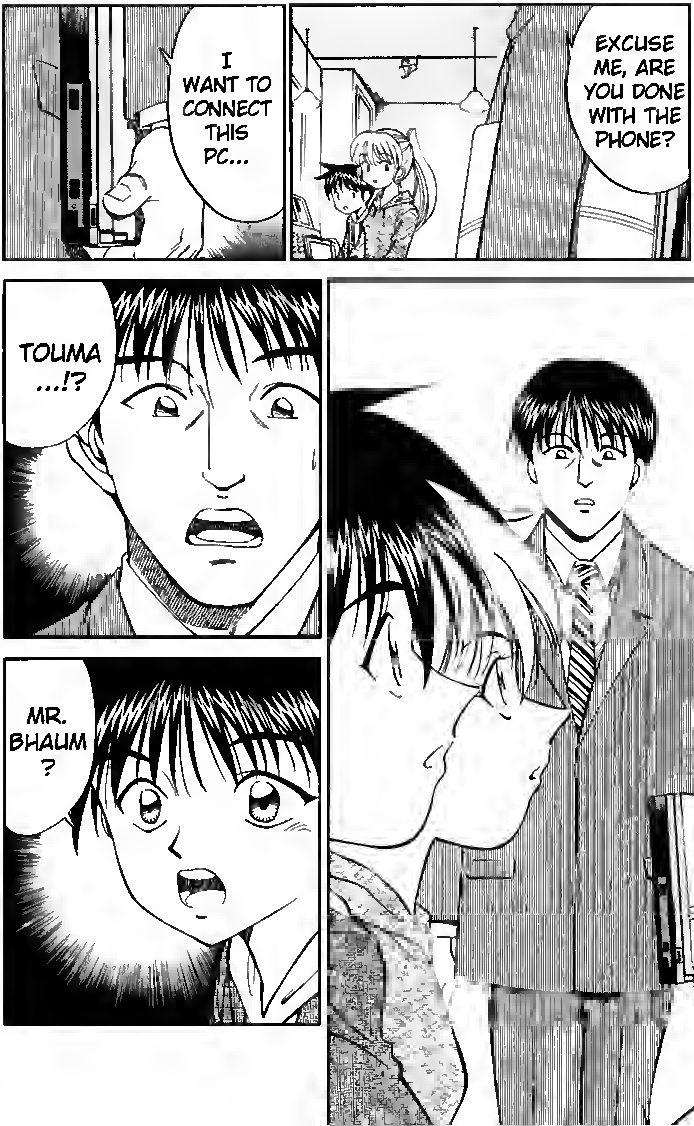

JAPAN,
TOKYO
SHIBUYA
TIC


Mailer
ファイル 編集 表示 メッセージ ジャンプ オプション ウィンドウ ヘルプ
Inbox
April Fool Club
Subject: April Fool Club
Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 11:15:19 +0900
From: April Fool Club
To: Tohma
April Fool Club
INVITATION FOR LIERS !
APRIL FOOL CLUB?
WHAT'S THAT, TOUMA?
WAAAH!! IT'S ALMOST APRIL 1ST!!
PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD WHO LOVE APRIL FOOL'S GATHER FOR A LYING TOURNAMENT.


?
ESPECIALLY BRITISH NEWS-PAPERS. EVERY YEAR THEY THINK UP A GOOD ONE, LIKE TELLING ALL THE READERS TO SMELL THE PAPER BECAUSE THEY USED TULIP-SCENTED INK TO PRINT THE NEWSPAPER
IN EUROPE AND AMERICA, EVEN NEWSPAPERS PRINT FALSE NEWS AS A JOKE ON APRIL FOOL'S.
OR CLAIMING THE KING OF ENGLAND STARTED A WEBPAGE, SO PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD WOULD TRY TO ACCESS IT.
WOW... A GATHERING OF PRANK-STERS?!
THIS E-MAIL IS AN INVITATION.
EVERY YEAR ON APRIL 1ST THE APRIL FOOL CLUB HOLDS A CONTEST TO SEE WHO CAN TELL THE BEST LIE OR PULL THE BEST PRANK.
WELL, IT'S A DAY DEDICATED TO LYING.
HYA!
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR A JOKE?
BECAUSE I WON LAST YEAR.
YES, I HAVE TO....
DO YOU WANT TO COMPETE IN THAT CONTEST?


IT WAS JUST A LITTLE TRICK...
YOU WON!? WHAT DID YOU DO?
AS A RESULT, THEY COULDN'T MAKE ANY APRIL FOOL'S JUDGEMENTS.
That's crazy
I JUST CHANGED THE DATE IN THE WESTERN NEWSPAPERS THAT WERE READ BY THE CLUB'S JUDGES. MARCH 31ST WAS CHANGED TO APRIL 1ST, AND APRIL 1ST WAS CHANGED TO APRIL 2ND.
HUH? THAT MEANS YOU LIED ON MARCH 31ST!
THAT'S THE TRICK, MIZUHARA-SAN.
April 1st
March 31st
BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENCE IN LATITUDE
I COULD LIE.
WHEN IT'S MARCH 31ST IN EUROPE AND AMERICA, IT'S APRIL 1ST IN JAPAN

I'M IN DEEP BECAUSE OF THAT TRICK...
THIS YEAR I'VE GOT TO PARTICIPATE AS THE DEFENDING CHAMPION.
HA HA HA! THAT'S NUTS!
UGH... ACTUALLY, I DON'T WANT TO BOTHER WITH IT...
BUT IF I LET IT GO, EVERYONE WILL BE MAD.
ESPE-CIALLY GRIA-SAN.
WHO'S GRIA?
A MEMBER OF THE CLUB. SHE CAME IN SECOND LAST YEAR...
SO, SHE'LL BE ANGRY IF YOU RUN AWAY
THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO ESCAPE...
DON'T BE A WUSS!
THERE'S GOTTA BE A WAY!
IS THAT SO, MIZU-HARA-SAN?
I WON'T KNOW IF I DON'T TRY.


I WANT TO CONNECT THIS PC...
EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU DONE WITH THE PHONE?
TOUMA ...!?
MR. BHAUM ?

LONG TIME NO SEE, TOUMA! I DIDN'T THINK WE'D MEET IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
IT'S MR. BAUM !!
?
?
OH, AN ACQUAINTANCE OF TOUMA-KUN'S FROM AMERICA!
MR. BAUM AND I WERE STUDENTS IN BOSTON, HIM AT HARVARD, AND ME AT MIT, WHEN WE BECAME ACQUAINTED.
WHEN I WAS HAVING COMPUTER PROBLEMS, I ASKED FOR SOMEONE WHO COULD HELP ME...
AND UP COMES WHAT LOOKS LIKE A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT... AKA TOUMA
AT MIT TOUMA WAS FAMOUS. HE WAS CALLED "THE BOY GENIUS!"
ASK HIM ANYTHING, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE SURPRISED
JUST HOW MANY THINGS HAVE YOU MEDDLED IN?
I DON'T WANT TO TELL YOU!
PAT

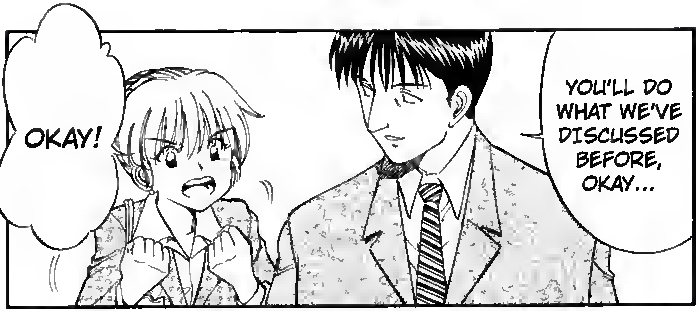
I CAME HERE TO FIND A PARTNER TO DEVELOP IT WITH.
A NEW PROMISING IRON DEPOSIT WAS FOUND IN MY COUNTRY.
HUH ...
IS THERE REALLY SUCH A COUNTRY ..?
MR. BHAUM RETURNED TO HIS HOMELAND, THE KINGDOM OF CLAVIUS, AND THEN WORKED FOR A FOREIGN FIRM...
BUT I WANT TO CONTACT MY HOMELAND NOW.
WHY ARE YOU NOW IN JAPAN?
WOULDN'T IT BE EASIER TO E-MAIL FROM THE EMBASSY?
TO SPARE OUR FUNDS ...
INTER-NATIONAL CALLS ARE FAR TOO EXPENSIVE, SO I JUST USE E-MAIL
BUGGED ?!
NO, NO... IT'D BE TROUBLE-SOME IF IT'S BUGGED.

SERIOUSLY, THOUGH, I DO NEED TO FIND A PARTNER FOR DEVELOPMENT.
HA HA HA! JUST KIDDING!
DEPENDS ON THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROJECT.
BECAUSE THE LIVES OF MANY PEOPLE IN MY COUNTRY ...
IT'S WRITTEN ON YOUR FACE!
I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING YET!!
HELP HIM
NOT INTER-ESTED
HEY, TOUMA-KUN!

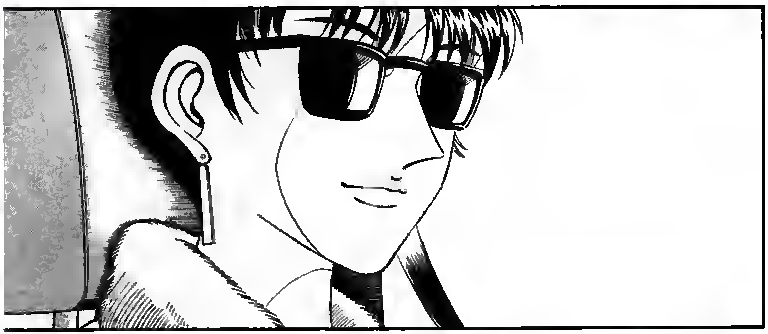
MIZU-HARA-SAN ...
IF YOU WANT TO HELP PEOPLE, YOU SHOULD DO IT YOUR-SELF, AND NOT RELY ON OTHERS.
IS THAT SO?
MR. BHAUM, IT LOOKS LIKE MIZUHARA-SAN WANTS TO HELP YOU OUT.
EH?
YES!! I'LL HELP!!
AH... NO... WE DO NEED HELP...
BUT IT'S SO SUDDEN ...
IT'S OKAY, MR. BHAUM

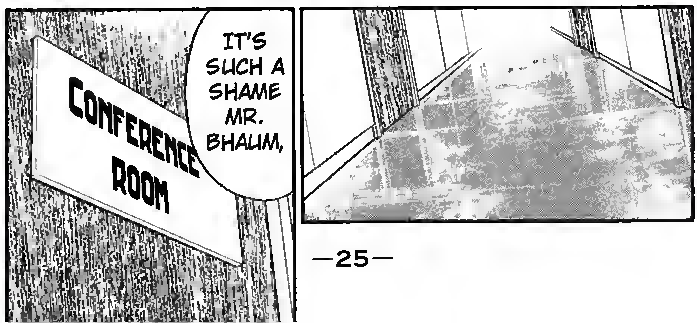
. . . .
I THINK MIZUHARA-SAN WILL CERTAINLY BE ABLE TO HELP
. . . . . .
IF TOUMA SAYS SO... OKAY, THANK YOU.
TUG
CLATTER

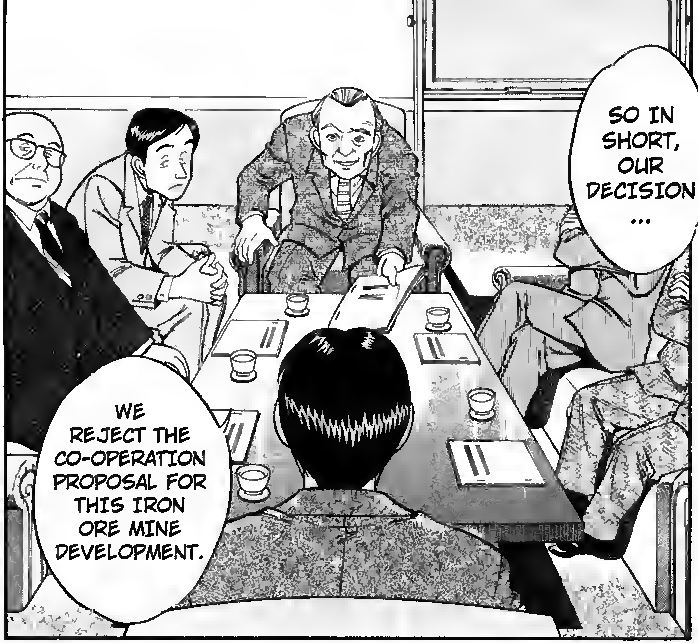
SHIMBASHI, D CORP -ORATION
D COMPANY?
株式会社D商事
PUBLIC COMPANY D CORPORATION
THIS IS A WELL-KNOWN COMPANY IN JAPAN. YOU'RE DEALING WITH THEM?
WELL ...
THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMPANY MAY WANT TO CO-OPERATE ...
?

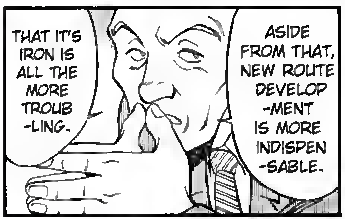

OKAY!
YOU'LL DO WHAT WE'VE DISCUSSED BEFORE, OKAY...

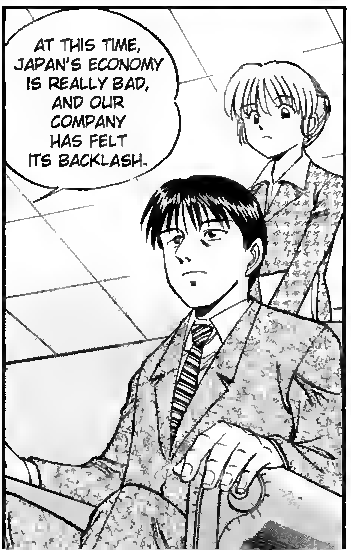
HA HA HA... THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
LET'S BRACE OURSELVES AND GO IN THERE!

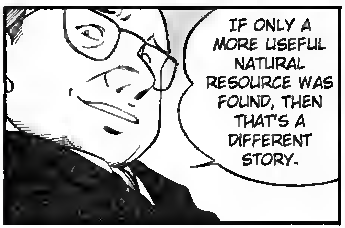



CONFERENCE ROOM
IT'S SUCH A SHAME MR. BHAUM,


SO IN SHORT, OUR DECISION ...
WE REJECT THE CO-OPERATION PROPOSAL FOR THIS IRON ORE MINE DEVELOPMENT.

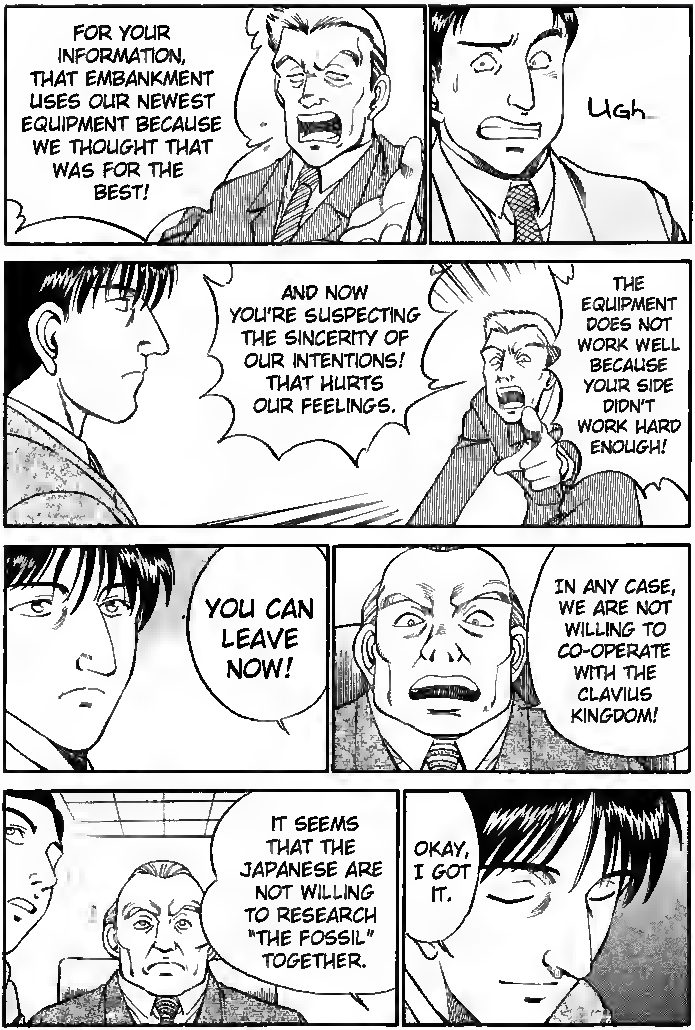

ASIDE FROM THAT, NEW ROUTE DEVELOP -MENT IS MORE INDISPEN -SABLE.
THAT IT'S IRON IS ALL THE MORE TROUB -LING.


AT THIS TIME, JAPAN'S ECONOMY IS REALLY BAD, AND OUR COMPANY HAS FELT ITS BACKLASH.


IF ONLY A MORE USEFUL NATURAL RESOURCE WAS FOUND, THEN THAT'S A DIFFERENT STORY.

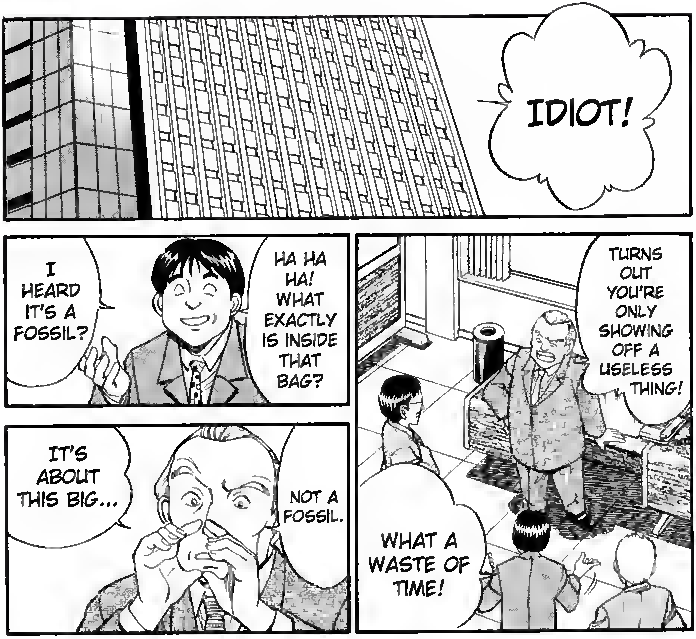
THAT'S WHY, WE'RE TRULY SORRY BUT AT THE MOMENT...
HOW'S THAT? MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT THAT FIRST
THAT WAY, JUST LIKE USUAL, WE'LL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE CALMLY
IT MAY TAKE A LONG TIME, BUT THERE'S HOPE...
WHAT IF YOU BRING UP THIS PROBLEM TO THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE ODA PROGRAM?
IS THAT SO...
IF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO GRANT FINANCIAL AID, THIS WON'T BE A PROBLEM
JUST LIKE THAT EMBANKMENT ...
IN ORDER TO RAISE YOUR PROFITS,
AND YOU SOLD THE EQUIPMENT FOR A HIGH PRICE...
GOING FOR AN INTER-NATIONAL TENDER...

SUCH HARSH WORDS FROM YOU.
.....
IT'S TRUE, SOME ODA PROJECTS WERE UN-SUCCESSFUL,
BUT IF YOU LOOK AT IT GLOBALLY, THERE ARE ALSO A LOT OF SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS THAT'S NOT ENOUGH TO BASE SUCH CRITICISM ON!
WE'VE RECEIVED MANY WORDS OF GRATITUDE FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
IF MANY PROJECTS WERE SUCCESSFUL, YET THE UNSUC-CESSFUL ONES ARE ABANDONED JUST LIKE THAT...
DOESN'T THAT RAISE SOME QUESTIONS?


FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THAT EMBANKMENT USES OUR NEWEST EQUIPMENT BECAUSE WE THOUGHT THAT WAS FOR THE BEST!
Ugh
AND NOW YOU'RE SUSPECTING THE SINCERITY OF OUR INTENTIONS! THAT HURTS OUR FEELINGS.
THE EQUIPMENT DOES NOT WORK WELL BECAUSE YOUR SIDE DIDN'T WORK HARD ENOUGH!
YOU CAN LEAVE NOW!
IN ANY CASE, WE ARE NOT WILLING TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE CLAVIUS KINGDOM!
IT SEEMS THAT THE JAPANESE ARE NOT WILLING TO RESEARCH "THE FOSSIL" TOGETHER.
OKAY, I GOT IT.

BUT, SIR...
LET'S GO.
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THAT? IF HE'S TALKING ABOUT CRUDE OIL, CAN YOU STILL CALL THAT A FOSSIL?
ALRIGHT, PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
FOSSIL ?
HAH!?
IF WE SHOW THE THING IN THIS BAG, MAYBE THEIR OPINION WILL CHANGE...
WHAT IS IT?
AH! W... WAIT A MINUTE, MR. BHAUM!
EVEN THOUGH WE BROUGHT IT ALL THE WAY HERE ...
IT'S USELESS... LET'S JUST GO BACK!

ABOUT THE EMBANKMENT THAT WE BUILT...
OH, YES.
ACTUALLY WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH THAT? WE WANT TO KNOW MORE CLEARLY.
HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS...
AH, NO... UM...
PLEASE GO TO THAT ROOM...
AH, THAT WON'T BE ANY PROBLEM.
EH, YOU MEAN THIS?
WHAT OBJECT IS INSIDE THE BAG THAT YOU WANT TO SHOW US?
ズニ
NOW, KID...
SFX: ZUN! (CLOSING IN)

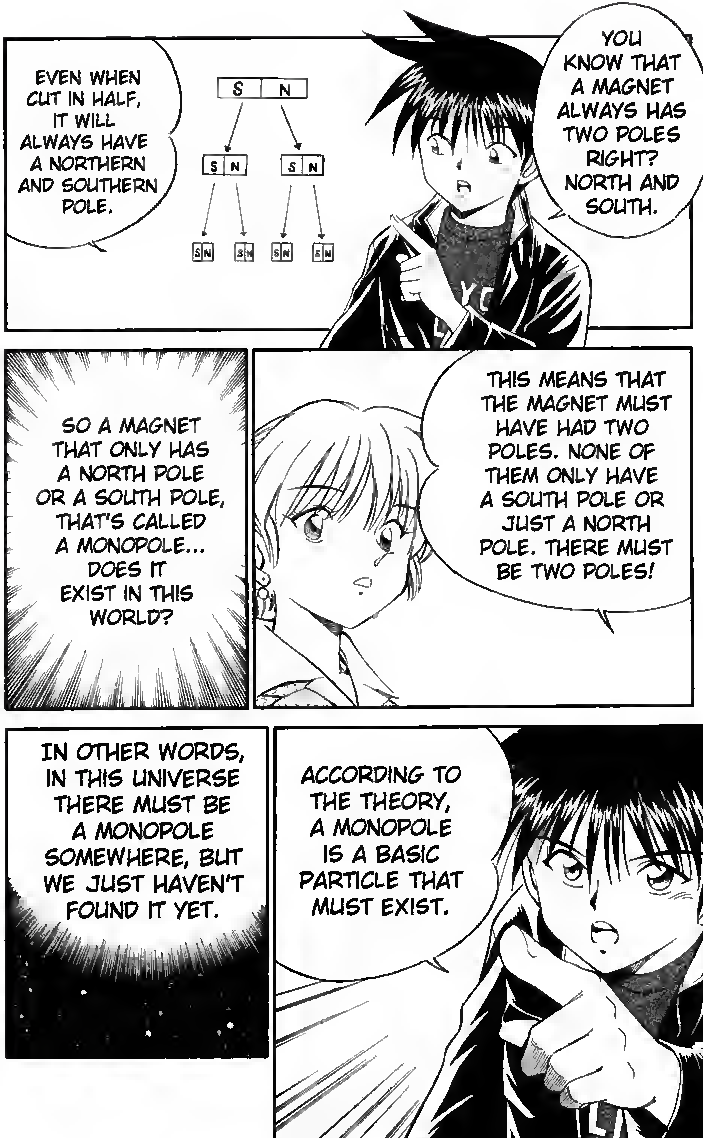

IDIOT!
I HEARD IT'S A FOSSIL?
HA HA HA! WHAT EXACTLY IS INSIDE THAT BAG?
IT'S ABOUT THIS BIG...
NOT A FOSSIL.
TURNS OUT YOU'RE ONLY SHOWING OFF A USELESS THING!
WHAT A WASTE OF TIME!
A THING LIKE A ROCK.

BUT THIS STONE IS INTERESTING ...
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT THIS IS A FOSSIL?
WHAT'S THAT?
RRR....
LOOK AT THAT! PLACED ON ANY SIDE IT'LL ALWAYS POINT TOWARD THE SOUTH DIRECTION.
THIS STONE IS MAGNETIZED, IF YOU PUT IT NEAR A COMPASS LIKE THIS...
SO WHAT?
A MAGNET THAT ONLY HAS A SOUTHERN POLE.
ISN'T IT INTER-ESTING?
BRUK!
HA HA HA! A STONE LIKE THAT IS JUST A GAME FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS!
UNBELI-EVABLE! ONLY SHOWING OFF USELESS THINGS!

N... NO.. THAT'S NOT IT SIR!
WHAT IS IT TSUTSUMU? GETTING SLEEPY AGAIN?
DID YOU READ A NOVEL UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT?
YES, WHAT ABOUT IT?
Y, YOU SAID THAT THE MAGNET ONLY HAD A SOUTHERN POLE, RIGHT?
MO... MO...!!
THAT'S ...
WHAT? 'MO' WHAT?

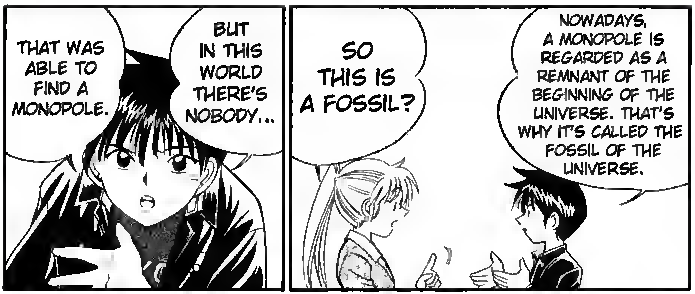
ISN'T THAT A MONOPOLE?
AH! THE SEWER'S LID!
WOW, THIS CHOCOLATE IS DELICIOUS!
YUMMY
I DON'T WANT TO DO IT.
YOU SHOULD'VE SAID "THAT'S A MAN-HOLE" DUMMY!
SFX GON! (PUNCH)
UM... WHAT IS A MONO-POLE?
I ONLY SAID WHAT MR. BHAUM TOLD ME TO.
IN JAPANESE, IT'S CALLED JIKITANKYOKUSHI*

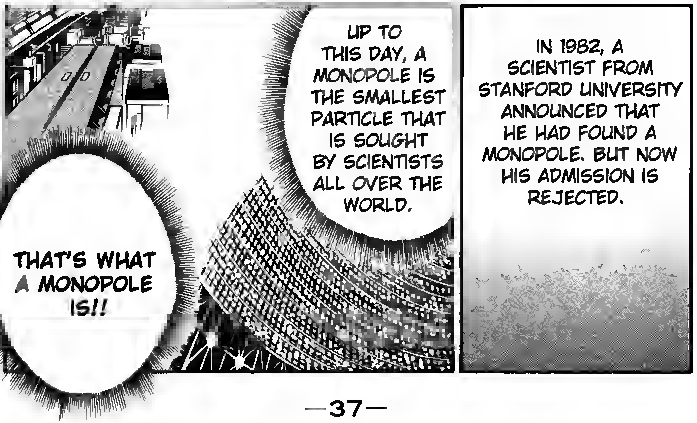
*JIKITANKYOKUSHI (磁気単極子) LITERALLY MEANS MAGNETIC SINGLE POLE

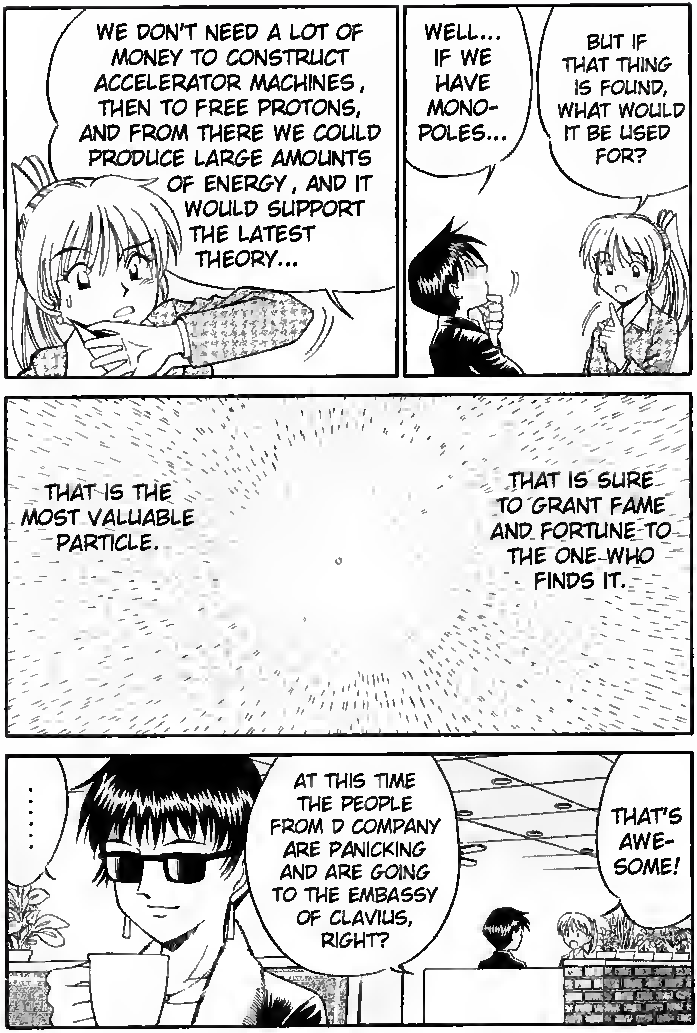

YOU KNOW THAT A MAGNET ALWAYS HAS TWO POLES RIGHT? NORTH AND SOUTH.
EVEN WHEN CUT IN HALF, IT WILL ALWAYS HAVE A NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN POLE.
S N
S N S N
S N S N S N S N
THIS MEANS THAT THE MAGNET MUST HAVE HAD TWO POLES. NONE OF THEM ONLY HAVE A SOUTH POLE OR JUST A NORTH POLE. THERE MUST BE TWO POLES!
SO A MAGNET THAT ONLY HAS A NORTH POLE OR A SOUTH POLE, THAT'S CALLED A MONOPOLE... DOES IT EXIST IN THIS WORLD?
ACCORDING TO THE THEORY, A MONOPOLE IS A BASIC PARTICLE THAT MUST EXIST.
IN OTHER WORDS, IN THIS UNIVERSE THERE MUST BE A MONOPOLE SOMEWHERE, BUT WE JUST HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET.

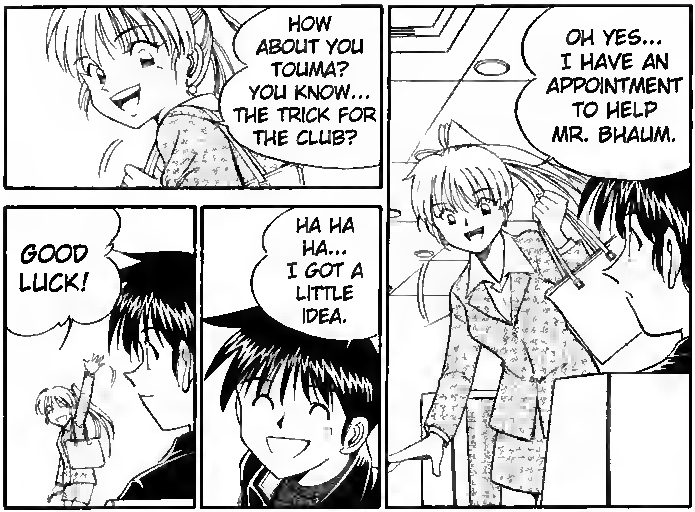
HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/BIG_BANG#MAGNETIC_MONOPOLES

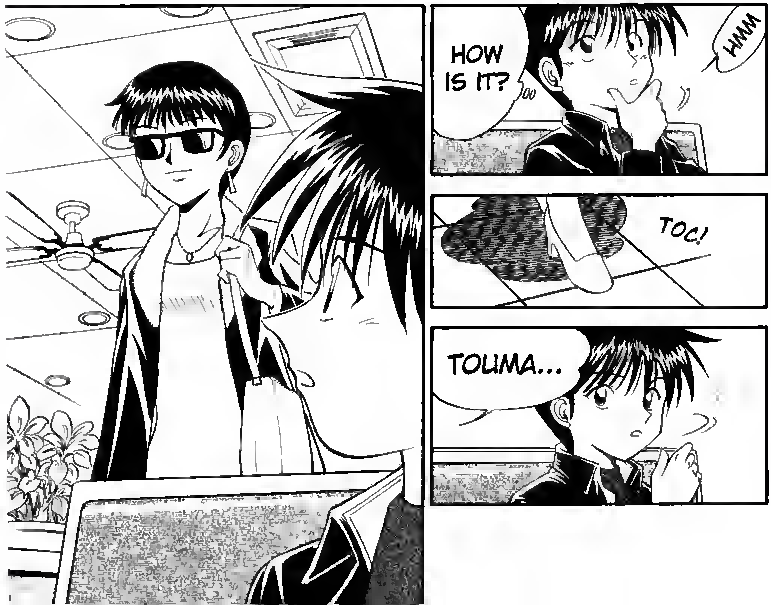
THAT IS BORN 10 OUT OF 28 TIMES FROM AN EXTREMELY HOT BURST OF LIGHT.
THE UNIVERSE WAS SAID TO BE BORN FROM AN INCIDENT CALLED THE BIG BANG*...


THAT WAS ABLE TO FIND A MONOPOLE.
BUT IN THIS WORLD THERE'S NOBODY...
SO THIS IS A FOSSIL?
NOWADAYS, A MONOPOLE IS REGARDED AS A REMNANT OF THE BEGINNING OF THE UNIVERSE. THAT'S WHY IT'S CALLED THE FOSSIL OF THE UNIVERSE.


THAT'S WHAT A MONOPOLE IS!!
UP TO THIS DAY, A MONOPOLE IS THE SMALLEST PARTICLE THAT IS SOUGHT BY SCIENTISTS ALL OVER THE WORLD.
IN 1982, A SCIENTIST FROM STANFORD UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD FOUND A MONOPOLE. BUT NOW HIS ADMISSION IS REJECTED.

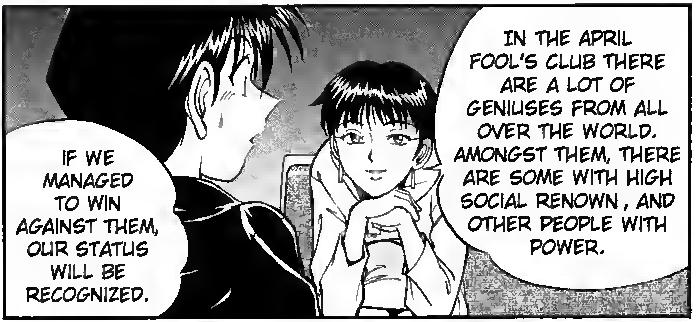

WE DON'T NEED A LOT OF MONEY TO CONSTRUCT ACCELERATOR MACHINES, THEN TO FREE PROTONS, AND FROM THERE WE COULD PRODUCE LARGE AMOUNTS OF ENERGY, AND IT WOULD SUPPORT THE LATEST THEORY...
WELL... IF WE HAVE MONO-POLES...
BUT IF THAT THING IS FOUND, WHAT WOULD IT BE USED FOR?
THAT IS THE MOST VALUABLE PARTICLE.
THAT IS SURE TO GRANT FAME AND FORTUNE TO THE ONE WHO FINDS IT.
.....
AT THIS TIME THE PEOPLE FROM D COMPANY ARE PANICKING AND ARE GOING TO THE EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS, RIGHT?
THAT'S AWE-SOME!

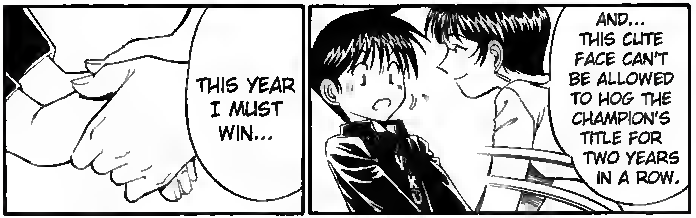

HOW ABOUT YOU TOUMA? YOU KNOW... THE TRICK FOR THE CLUB?
OH YES... I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO HELP MR. BHAUM.
GOOD LUCK!
HA HA HA... I GOT A LITTLE IDEA.

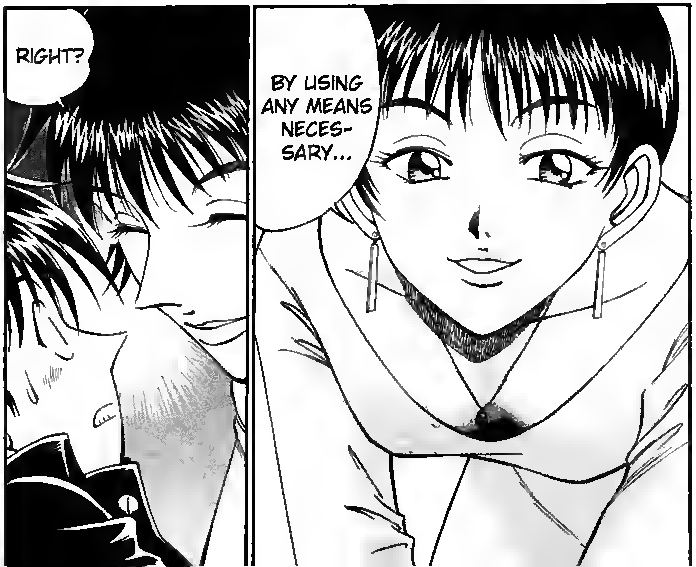

HOW IS IT?
HMM
TOC!
TOUMA...

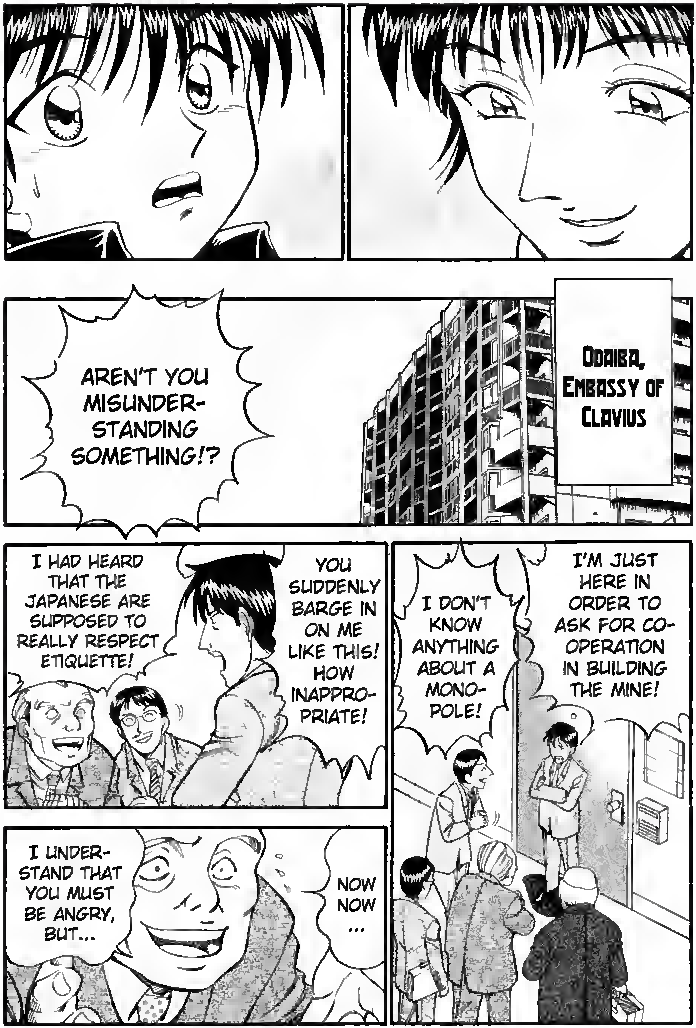
Madame Gria!
Ça fait longtemps qu'on ne s'est pas vu...
(I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR A LONG TIME...)
Il y a quelques jours...
(A FEW DAYS AGO...)
Quand es-tu arrivée au Japon?
(WHEN DID YOU ARRIVE IN JAPAN?)
Tu parles toujours très bien le français.
(YOU ALWAYS SPEAK FRENCH SO WELL.)

YES...
LAST TIME WE MET WAS AT LAST YEAR'S APRIL FOOL CLUB AWARD CEREMONY, RIGHT?
UM...
HA HA HA... YES...
YOU CAME IN FIRST PLACE, I WAS SECOND...
EH?
A MONOPOLE OR SOMETHING?
THIS YEAR IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE ALREADY PREPARED SOMETHING INTERESTING...
WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?
D... DON'T MISUNDERSTAND! IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!
COME ON, NO NEED TO HIDE IT!

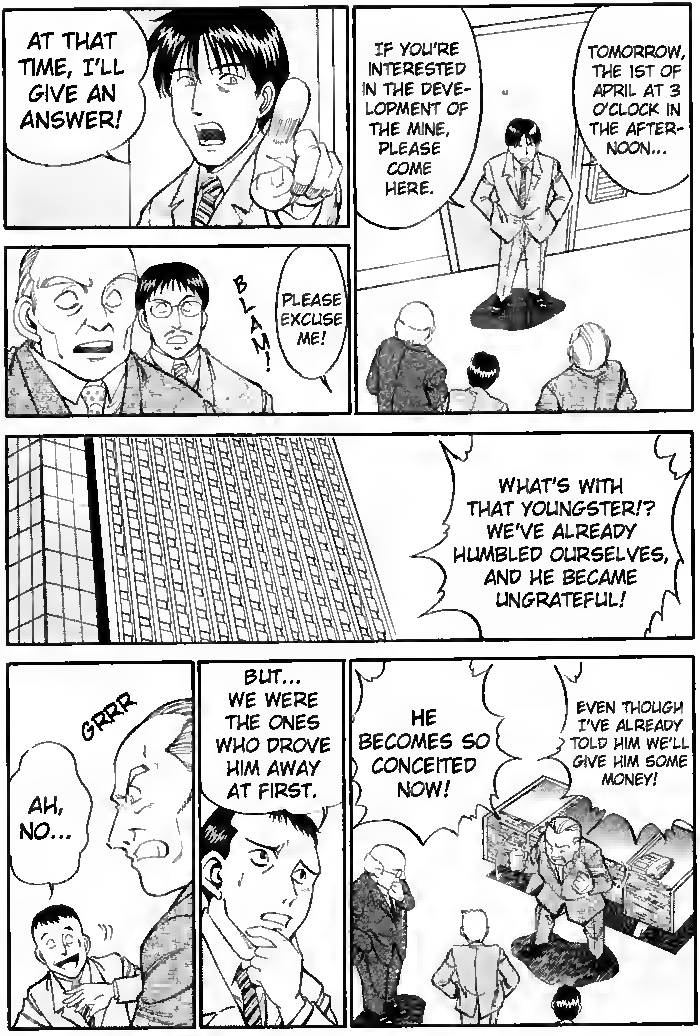

IN THE APRIL FOOL'S CLUB THERE ARE A LOT OF GENIUSES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. AMONGST THEM, THERE ARE SOME WITH HIGH SOCIAL RENOWN, AND OTHER PEOPLE WITH POWER.
IF WE MANAGED TO WIN AGAINST THEM, OUR STATUS WILL BE RECOGNIZED.


AND... THIS CUTE FACE CAN'T BE ALLOWED TO HOG THE CHAMPION'S TITLE FOR TWO YEARS IN A ROW.
THIS YEAR I MUST WIN...

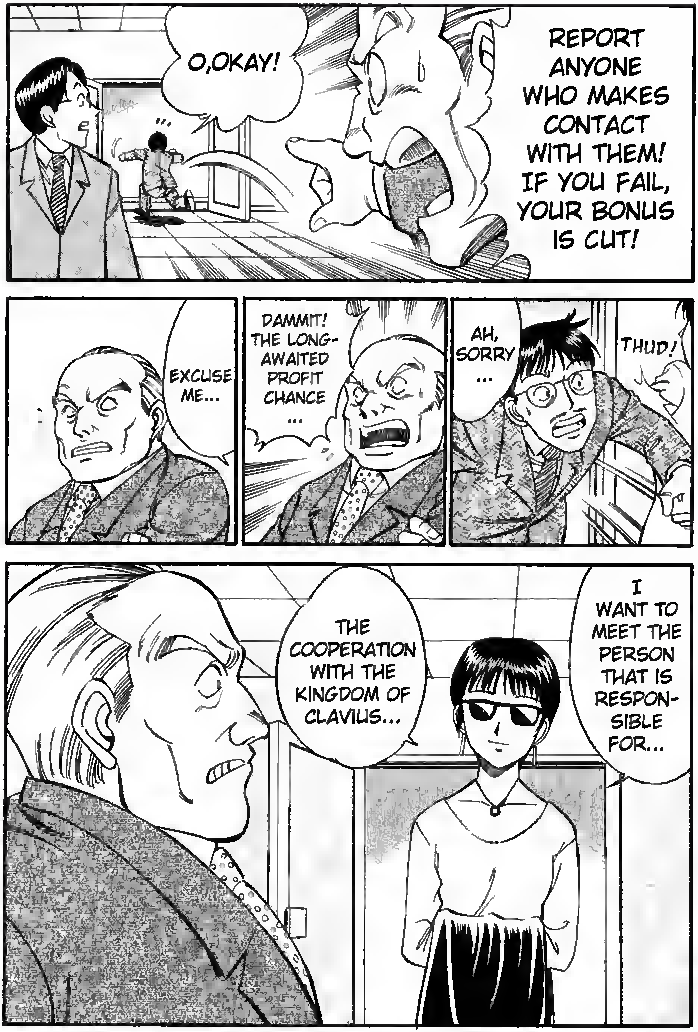

BY USING ANY MEANS NECES-SARY...
RIGHT?


AREN'T YOU MISUNDERSTANDING SOMETHING!?
ODAIBA, EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS
I HAD HEARD THAT THE JAPANESE ARE SUPPOSED TO REALLY RESPECT ETIQUETTE!
YOU SUDDENLY BARGE IN ON ME LIKE THIS! HOW INAPPROPRIATE!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT A MONOPOLE!
I'M JUST HERE IN ORDER TO ASK FOR CO-OPERATION IN BUILDING THE MINE!
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU MUST BE ANGRY, BUT...
NOW NOW ...

WE'VE ALREADY RESERVED A PLACE AT A FAMOUS RESTAURANT.
OF COURSE WE'VE CONSIDERED THE MINING DEVELOPMENT.
THIS IS OUR TRUE SENTI-MENT...
WE'VE ALSO PREPARED SOME MONEY FOR YOU.
REBATE, RIGHT?
I FATHOM VICE-MINISTER BHAUM,
BUT FOR TODAY, PLEASE GO HOME.
IN THAT CASE ...
OOOH!!
I UNDER-STAND!

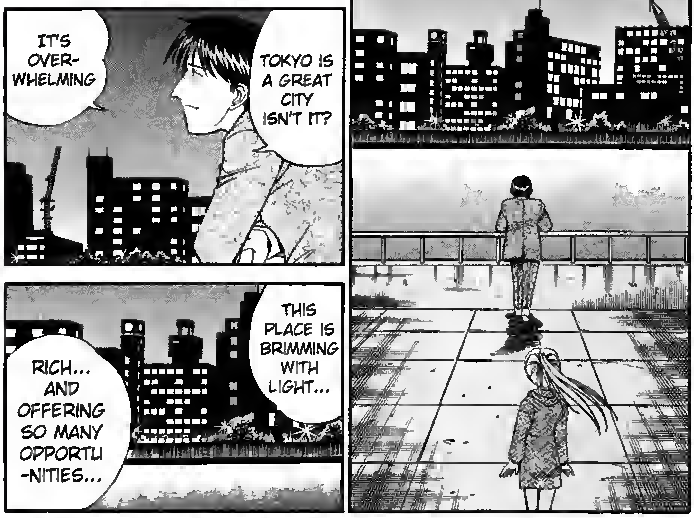

AT THAT TIME, I'LL GIVE AN ANSWER!
IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINE, PLEASE COME HERE.
TOMORROW, THE 1ST OF APRIL AT 3 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON...
PLEASE EXCUSE ME!
BLAM!
WHAT'S WITH THAT YOUNGSTER!? WE'VE ALREADY HUMBLED OURSELVES, AND HE BECAME UNGRATEFUL!
BUT... WE WERE THE ONES WHO DROVE HIM AWAY AT FIRST.
GRRR
AH, NO...
HE BECOMES SO CONCEITED NOW!
EVEN THOUGH I'VE ALREADY TOLD HIM WE'LL GIVE HIM SOME MONEY!

MAYBE, THEY ALREADY HAVE ANOTHER COUNTRY INVOLVED AS THEIR PARTNER...
ANYWAY, IF THEY WANT TO IMPLEMENT A NUCLEAR BASED POWER SUPPLY, THEY DON'T HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY NOR THE FUNDING.
IF IT'S TRUE THAT WE CAN FIND THE MONOPOLE IN CLAVIUS, THEY MUST HAVE NEED FOR A PARTNER COUNTRY TO HELP THEM WITH THEIR TECHNOLOGY.
AH,... THAT'S JUST A POSSI-BILITY...
DON'T SPOUT OUT NON-SENSE!
EH?
KEEP CLOSE TABS ON THEIR MOVE-MENTS!
DON'T SAY MAYBE! TAKE A COUPLE OF GUYS, AND GO TO THE EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS RIGHT AWAY!
UM... BUT OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE ALMOST OVER...
QUIET! GO AWAY!

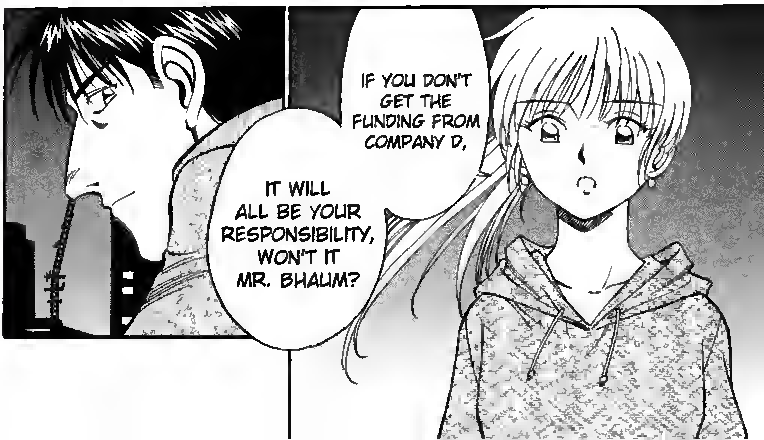

O,OKAY!
REPORT ANYONE WHO MAKES CONTACT WITH THEM! IF YOU FAIL, YOUR BONUS IS CUT!
EXCUSE ME...
DAMMIT! THE LONG-AWAITED PROFIT CHANCE ...
AH, SORRY ...
THUD!
THE COOPERATION WITH THE KINGDOM OF CLAVIUS...
I WANT TO MEET THE PERSON THAT IS RESPON-SIBLE FOR...

INTERESTED WITH THE MONOPOLE INVESTIGATION, HUH?
WHO ARE YOU?
COOL YOUR HEAD. PLEASE THINK ABOUT THIS CALMLY...
WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT!?
WHAT!?
THAT'S A PARTICLE SOUGHT AFTER BY SCIENTISTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND IT STILL HASN'T BEEN FOUND, UNTIL NOW...
IS IT TRUE THAT THE THING IS IN CLAVIUS?
DOES THE MONOPOLE REALLY EXIST?

hmm
HAH ...?
EH ...?
APRIL FOOL CLUB?
DO YOU ...
KNOW ABOUT THE APRIL FOOL CLUB?


IT'S OVER-WHELMING
TOKYO IS A GREAT CITY ISN'T IT?
RICH... AND OFFERING SO MANY OPPORTU-NITIES...
THIS PLACE IS BRIMMING WITH LIGHT...

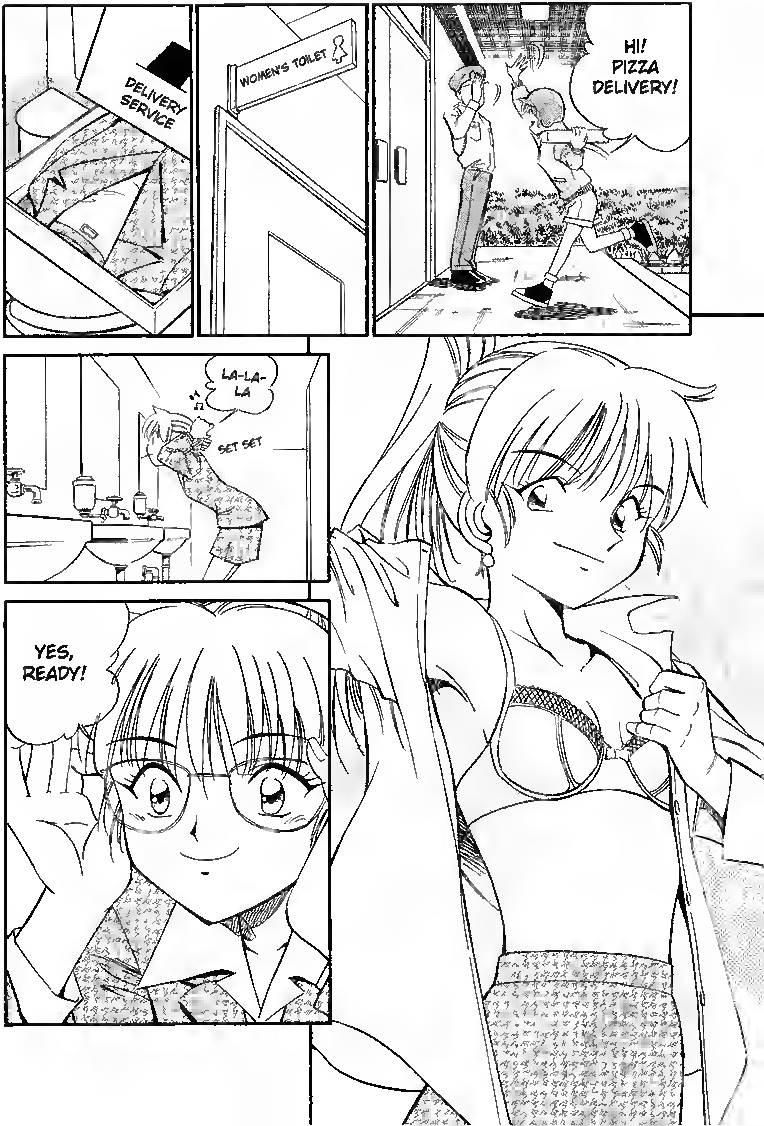
MR. BHAUM ...


IF YOU DON'T GET THE FUNDING FROM COMPANY D,
IT WILL ALL BE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, WON'T IT MR. BHAUM?

BECAUSE I GOT THAT CHANCE, I CAN COME HERE.
THIS TIME IT'S MY TURN TO DO SOME-THING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION.
BOTH MY PARENTS WORKED HARD TO SAVE UP MONEY TO PUT ME INTO SCHOOL.
I WANT TO GIVE THAT CHANCE TO THE COUNTRY'S CHILDREN...
IF CLAVIUS CAN BE PROSPEROUS LIKE TOKYO, MANY OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE BORN...
I'LL GIVE IT.
IF FOR ALL THAT I MUST BET MY OWN NECK,

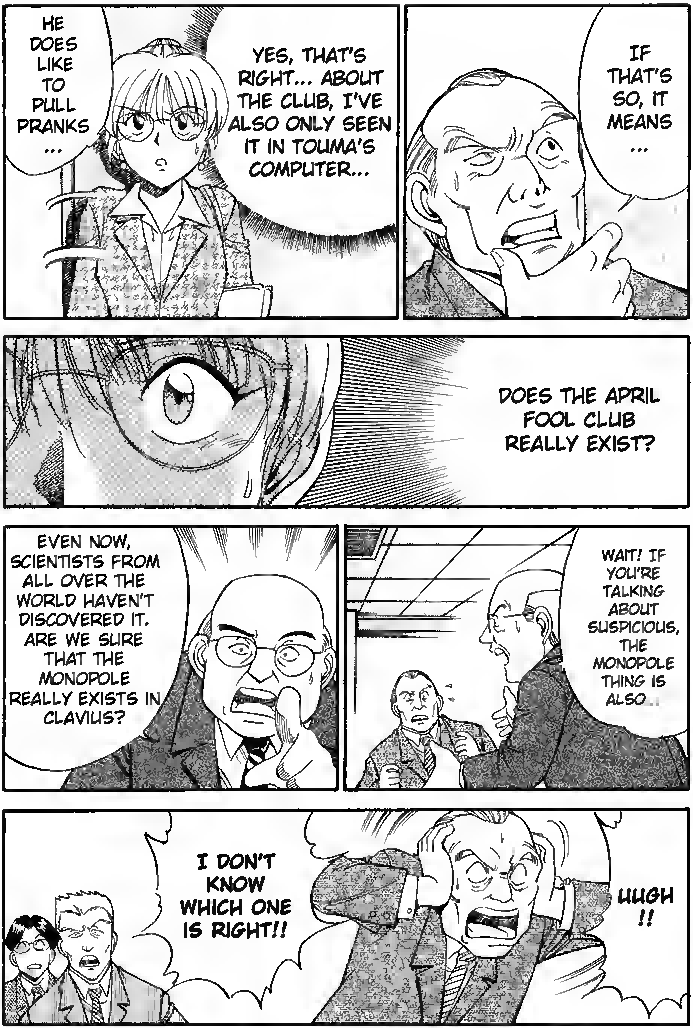
ONLY LUCK WILL DECIDE ...

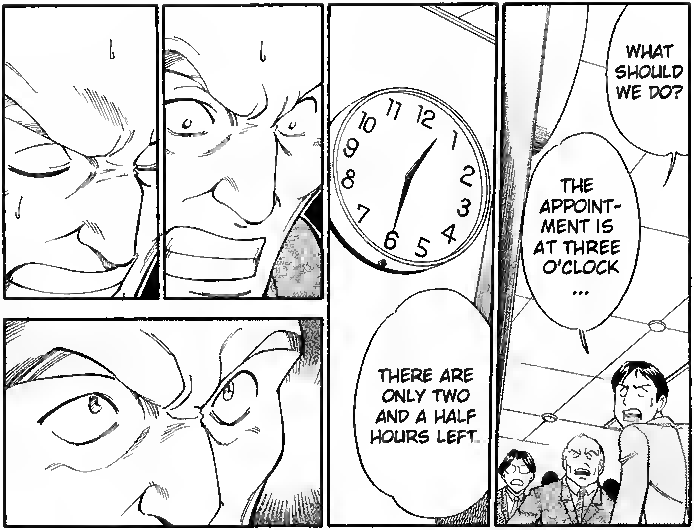
4月1日(木)
ピサの斜塔
新橋駅
SHIMBASHI STATION

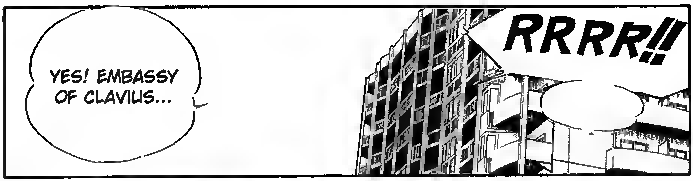

DELIVERY SERVICE
WOMEN'S TOILET
HI! PIZZA DELIVERY!
LA-LA-LA
SET SET
YES, READY!

FRENCH EMBASSY?
AH! THERE IT IS!
外務事業部
HE'S AT THE OPENING CEREMONY
WHAT ABOUT HOMURA HANSHIN?
AS PER OUR ORDERS, WE HAD HER TAILED LAST NIGHT.
THE WOMAN WITH SUN-GLASSES?
A WOMAN WEARING SUNGLAS-SES? FRENCH EMBASSY?
AND SHE WENT TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY

FRANCE IS A COUNTRY THAT FOCUSES HEAVILY ON NUCLEAR RESEARCH.
SO, THE WOMAN IS RELATED TO FRENCH EMBASSY ...
COULD IT BE THAT FRANCE WANTS TO WORK WITH THE KINGDOM OF CLAVIUS, SO TO MAKE US BRUSH THEM ASIDE, SHE CLAIMED THAT THE MONOPOLE IS A LIE...
HM...
YEAH. THAT THING ABOUT A APRIL FOOL CLUB SHE MENTIONED SOUNDS SUSPICOUS, ISN'T IT?
YOU MEAN, SHE LIED ON PURPOSE SO THAT WE WON'T COOPERATE WITH CLAVIUS?
MAYBE THAT WHOLE STORY WAS MADE UP?
I HAVEN'T HEARD ABOUT A WORLD-CLASS LYING CONTEST.


HE DOES LIKE TO PULL PRANKS ...
YES, THAT'S RIGHT... ABOUT THE CLUB, I'VE ALSO ONLY SEEN IT IN TOUMA'S COMPUTER...
IF THAT'S SO, IT MEANS ...
DOES THE APRIL FOOL CLUB REALLY EXIST?
EVEN NOW, SCIENTISTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD HAVEN'T DISCOVERED IT. ARE WE SURE THAT THE MONOPOLE REALLY EXISTS IN CLAVIUS?
WAIT! IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SUSPICIOUS, THE MONOPOLE THING IS ALSO...
I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE IS RIGHT!!
UUGH !!


WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THE APPOINT-MENT IS AT THREE O'CLOCK ...
THERE ARE ONLY TWO AND A HALF HOURS LEFT.

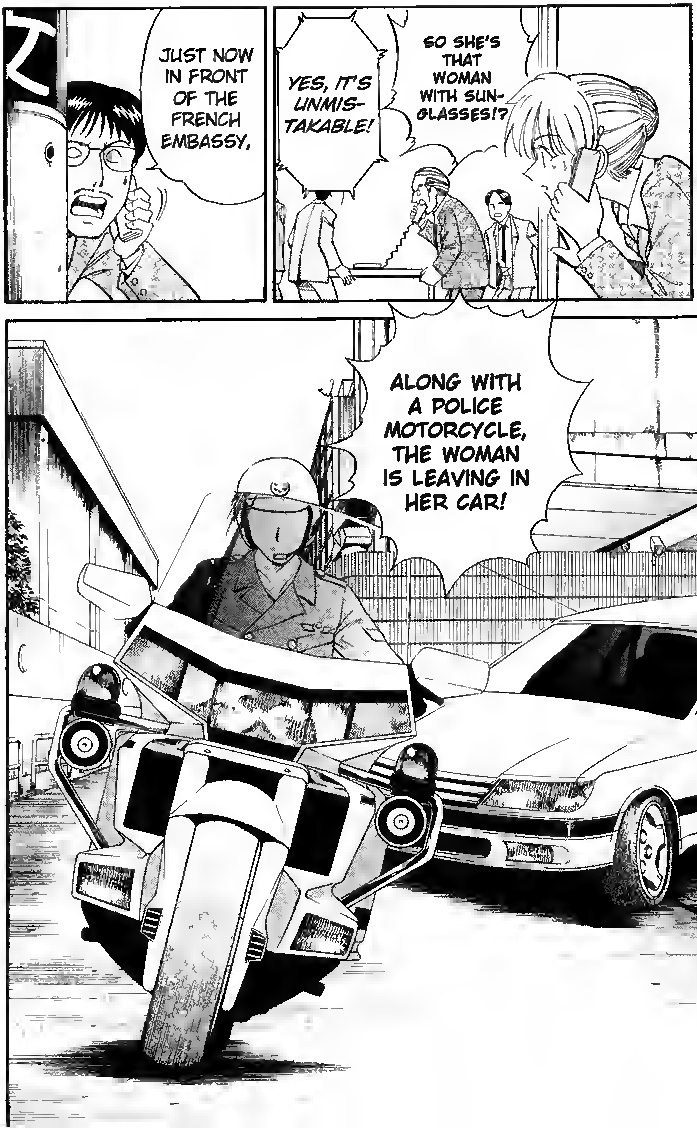

RRRR!!
YES! EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS...

AAH.. MIZU-HARA.
WHAT IS IT!?

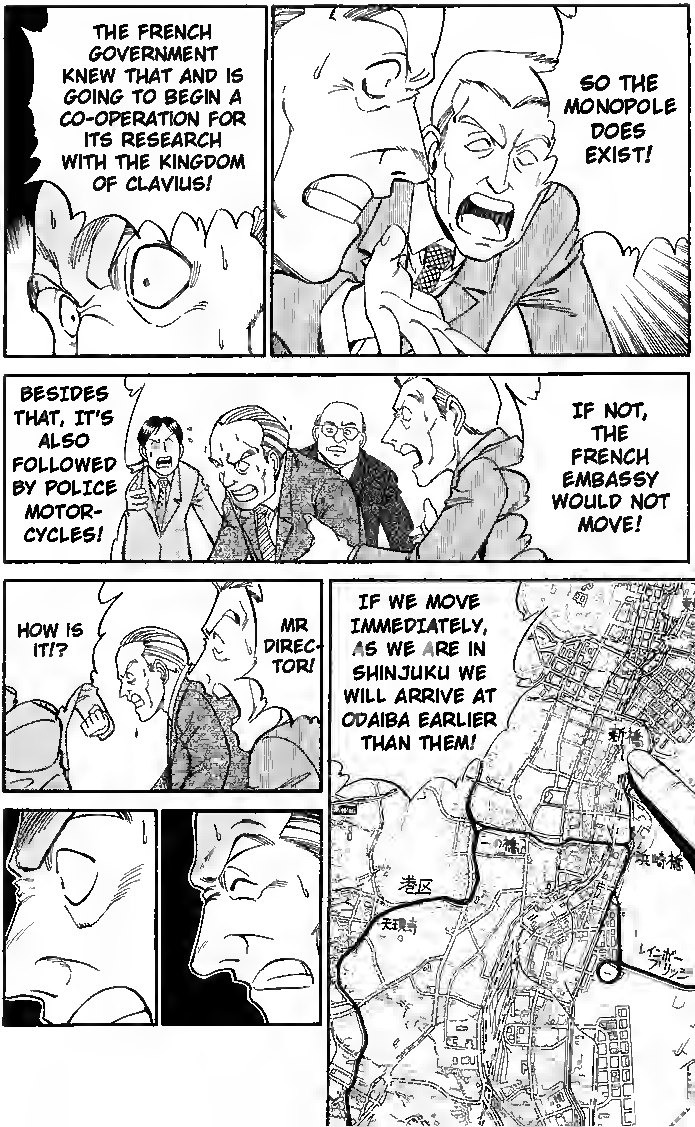
IT SEEMS THAT THE CONTRACT LETTER WILL BE SENT,
BUT DUE TO A WOMAN IN SUNGLASSES MEDDLING AROUND,
THEY BECAME UNSURE.
MAYBE IT'D BETTER IF MR BHALIM CAME HERE TO SPEAK DIRECTLY?
.....
NO... THAT'S NOT POS-SIBLE.
WHY?
THIS NEGOCIATION HAS TO BE CONTROLLED FROM MY SIDE,
ALL I CAN DO IS TO WAIT FOR THEM TO COME HERE.
THEY MUST BE THE ONES WHO INITIATE IT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP ...
IF THEY DON'T ACT, THE PLAN WILL FAIL.
!!
TREK
REALLY !?
AH!
WHAT TO DOOO!?
WAAHH ...!
RRRR!!
TREK
YES, HELLO?

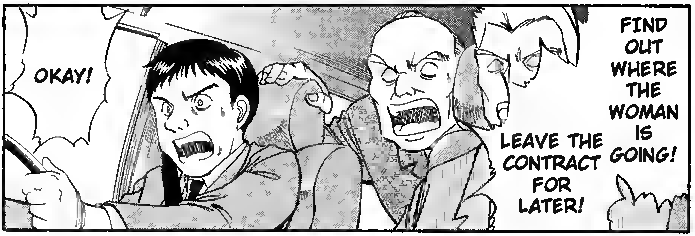
AH, MIZUHARA.
WHAT'S UP?
!!
DON'T JUST SAY "WHAT'S UP"!!
IS THAT SO...
THAT MEANS THAT THE SUNGLASSES WOMAN IS INTERFERING, HUH?
YES! DO YOU HAVE ANY GOOD IDEAS WE COULD USE?
HM.. WHAT TO DO ...?
AH! WAIT A MINUTE!
PSST
WHAT IS IT?
WHAAT!? IS THAT TRUE?

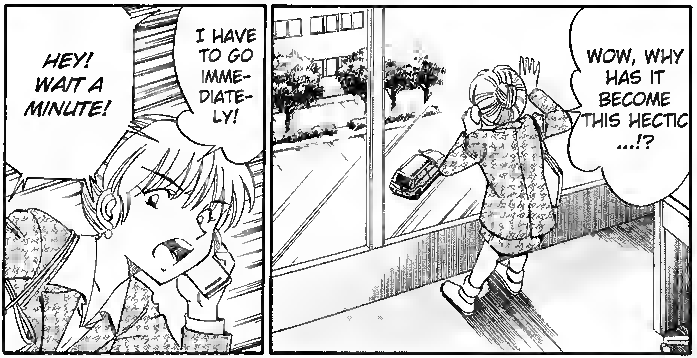

JUST NOW IN FRONT OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY,
YES, IT'S UNMISTAKABLE!
SO SHE'S THAT WOMAN WITH SUNGLASSES!?
ALONG WITH A POLICE MOTORCYCLE, THE WOMAN IS LEAVING IN HER CAR!

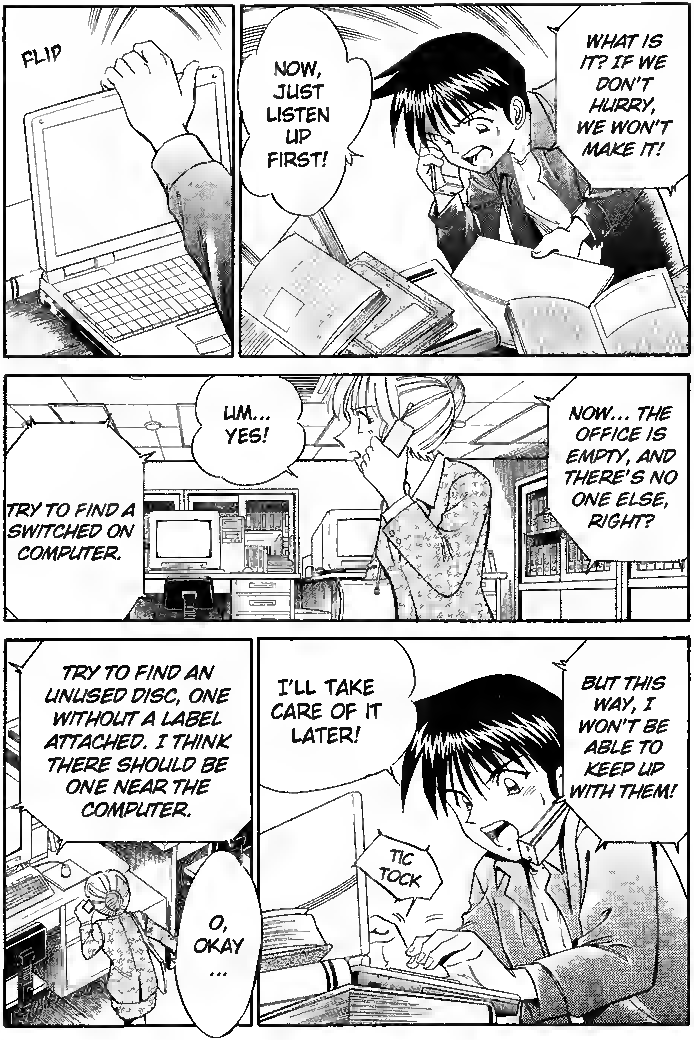
I, I DON'T KNOW YET...
WHERE IS SHE HEADING!?
DAMN, WHERE IS IT!?
M, MAP !!
AH! FROM THE DIRECTION OF TENGEN TEMPLE COMING INTO SHUTOKO, GOING TO THE EAST!
SHE'S GOING TOWARDS ODAIBA, WHERE THE EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS IS!
THIS ....
HERE IT IS!
港区
天王洲
台場


THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT KNEW THAT AND IS GOING TO BEGIN A CO-OPERATION FOR ITS RESEARCH WITH THE KINGDOM OF CLAVIUS!
SO THE MONOPOLE DOES EXIST!
BESIDES THAT, IT'S ALSO FOLLOWED BY POLICE MOTOR-CYCLES!
IF NOT, THE FRENCH EMBASSY WOULD NOT MOVE!
HOW IS IT!?
MR DIREC-TOR!
IF WE MOVE IMMEDIATELY, AS WE ARE IN SHINJUKU WE WILL ARRIVE AT ODAIBA EARLIER THAN THEM!
新橋
港区
レインボーブリッジ
お台場

高さ制限
QUICK!


OKAY!
LEAVE THE CONTRACT FOR LATER!
FIND OUT WHERE THE WOMAN IS GOING!

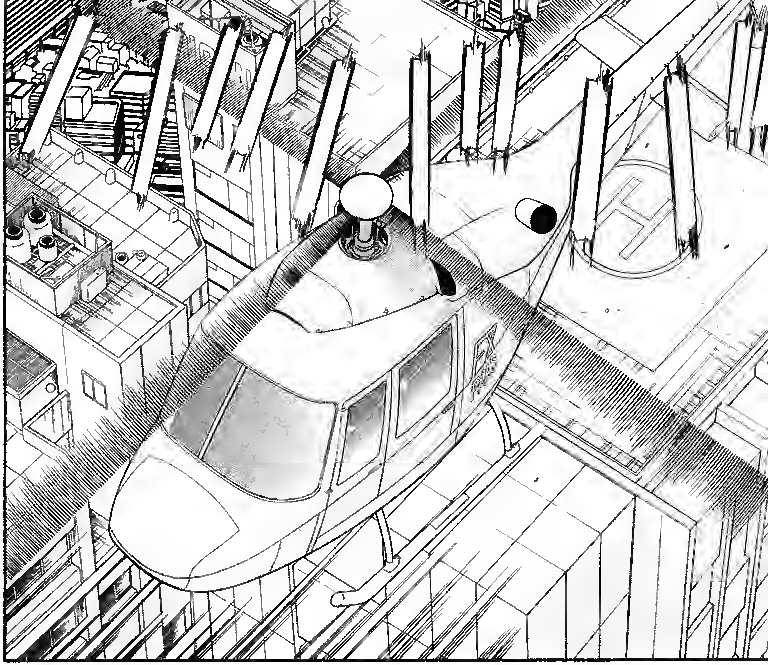

HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
I HAVE TO GO IMME-DIATE-LY!
WOW, WHY HAS IT BECOME THIS HECTIC ...!?

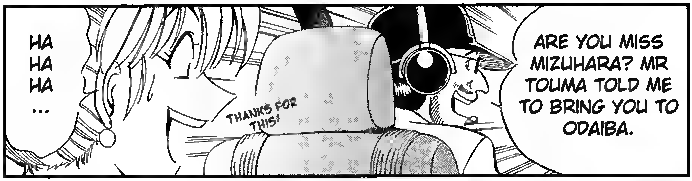

FLIP
NOW, JUST LISTEN UP FIRST!
WHAT IS IT? IF WE DON'T HURRY, WE WON'T MAKE IT!
UM... YES!
TRY TO FIND A SWITCHED ON COMPUTER.
NOW... THE OFFICE IS EMPTY, AND THERE'S NO ONE ELSE, RIGHT?
TRY TO FIND AN UNUSED DISC, ONE WITHOUT A LABEL ATTACHED. I THINK THERE SHOULD BE ONE NEAR THE COMPUTER.
O, OKAY ...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT LATER!
TIC TOCK
BUT THIS WAY, I WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH THEM!

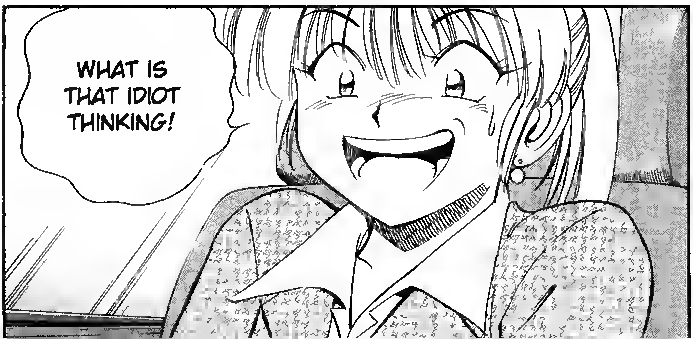
CITY ROAD, TWO LANES
WE'RE ALMOST AT THE ICHINOBASHI CROSSROAD.
AH!
KLAD KLID
IS SHE GOING TO TURN RIGHT TOWARDS ODAIBA!?
SO, SHE'S REALLY GOING TO THE EMBASSY OF CLAVILIS?
HM ....
WHAT!? A RIGHT TURN TO ICHINO-BASHI!?
AFTER A TURN AT HAMAZAKI, RAINBOW BRIDGE, THEN STRAIGHT TO ODAIBA!
SHINJUKU ROAD, FOUR LANES

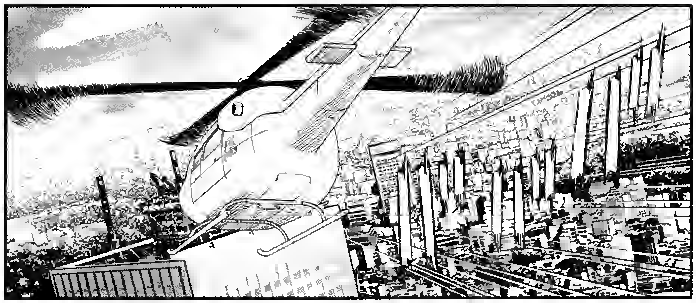
IN PRINCIPLE, DON'T CROSS A DANGEROUS BRIDGE...
THERE'S NO NEED TO DRAW A CONCLUSION HASTILY.
BASICALLY, WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS TO MAKE SURE WHERE THAT WOMAN IS GOING TO!
HMPH!
SHUT UP!
BUT, WE MAY BE LATE ...
TIK
TIK

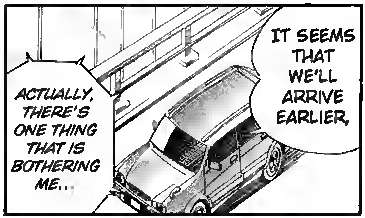
DIRECTIONS, ... YOU MEAN?
TREK
THEN, FOLLOW MY DIREC-TIONS!
IF THAT'S SO, DISCONNECT THE INTERNET CONNECTION.
OK! FINISHED DOWN-LOADING!
HMPH!
JUST GO!
ROOF?
JUST GO TO THE ROOF!
IT'S ALRIGHT !
IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE! THERE'S NO MORE TIME!
!?

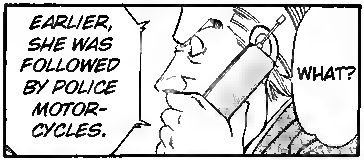


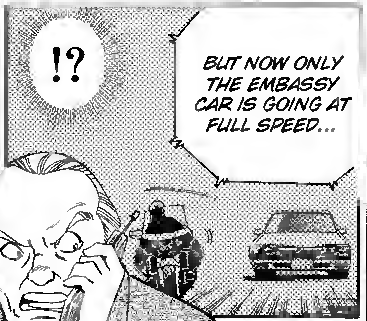

ARE YOU MISS MIZUHARA? MR TOUMA TOLD ME TO BRING YOU TO ODAIBA.
THANKS FOR THIS!
HA HA HA ...

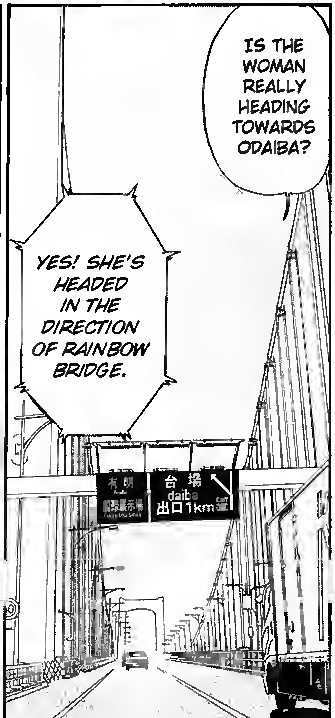

WHAT IS THAT IDIOT THINKING!

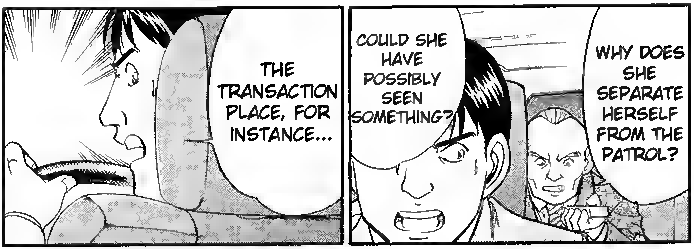


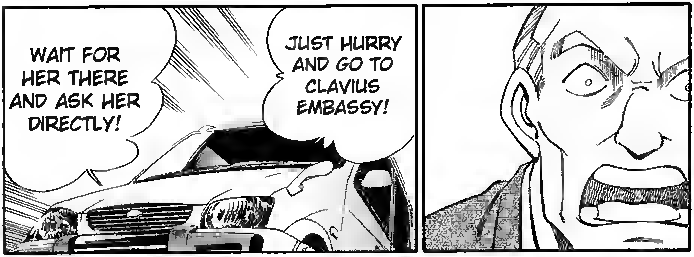

IT SEEMS THAT WE'LL ARRIVE EARLIER,
ACTUALLY, THERE'S ONE THING THAT IS BOTHERING ME...


WHAT?
EARLIER, SHE WAS FOLLOWED BY POLICE MOTOR-CYCLES.

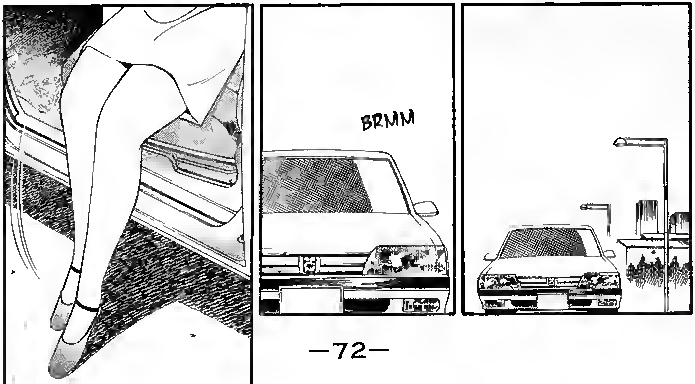

!?
BUT NOW ONLY THE EMBASSY CAR IS GOING AT FULL SPEED...

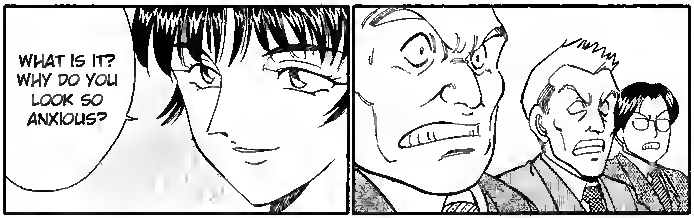

IS THE WOMAN REALLY HEADING TOWARDS ODAIBA?
YES! SHE'S HEADED IN THE DIRECTION OF RAINBOW BRIDGE.
台場
出口1km

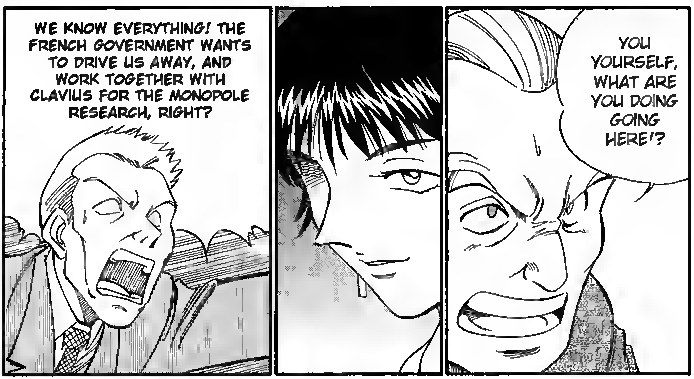

THE TRANSACTION PLACE, FOR INSTANCE...
COULD SHE HAVE POSSIBLY SEEN SOMETHING?
WHY DOES SHE SEPARATE HERSELF FROM THE PATROL?


WAIT FOR HER THERE AND ASK HER DIRECTLY!
JUST HURRY AND GO TO CLAVIUS EMBASSY!

ODAIBA


BRMM


WHAT IS IT? WHY DO YOU LOOK SO ANXIOUS?

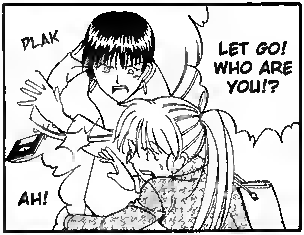

WE KNOW EVERYTHING! THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WANTS TO DRIVE US AWAY, AND WORK TOGETHER WITH CLAVIUS FOR THE MONOPOLE RESEARCH, RIGHT?
YOU YOURSELF, WHAT ARE YOU DOING GOING HERE!?

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU...?
HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR A MONOPOLE TO EXIST?
hmm
IF YOU THINK I'M LYING, JUST GO TO THE EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS, IT'S UP TO YOU IF YOU WANT TO COMMIT TO A CONTRACT OR WHATEVER.
HAH!?
. . . . .
THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT, IS THERE?
LIKH.
MR DIREC-TOR!

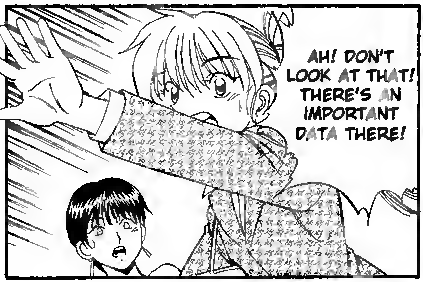
WE MUST IMMEDIATELY MAKE A DECISION!
THIS IS BAD! WHAT SHOULD WE DO!
WE MUST NOT TAKE ANY RISK!
MR DIREC-TOR ...!
!?
MISS GRIA!
LUCKY, IT'S NOT TOO LATE YET!

THAT'S THE LADY THAT WAS WITH THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BHALIM!

THANK GOODNESS, I THOUGHT I WAS TOO LATE!
I'M SORRY, MISS GRIA!

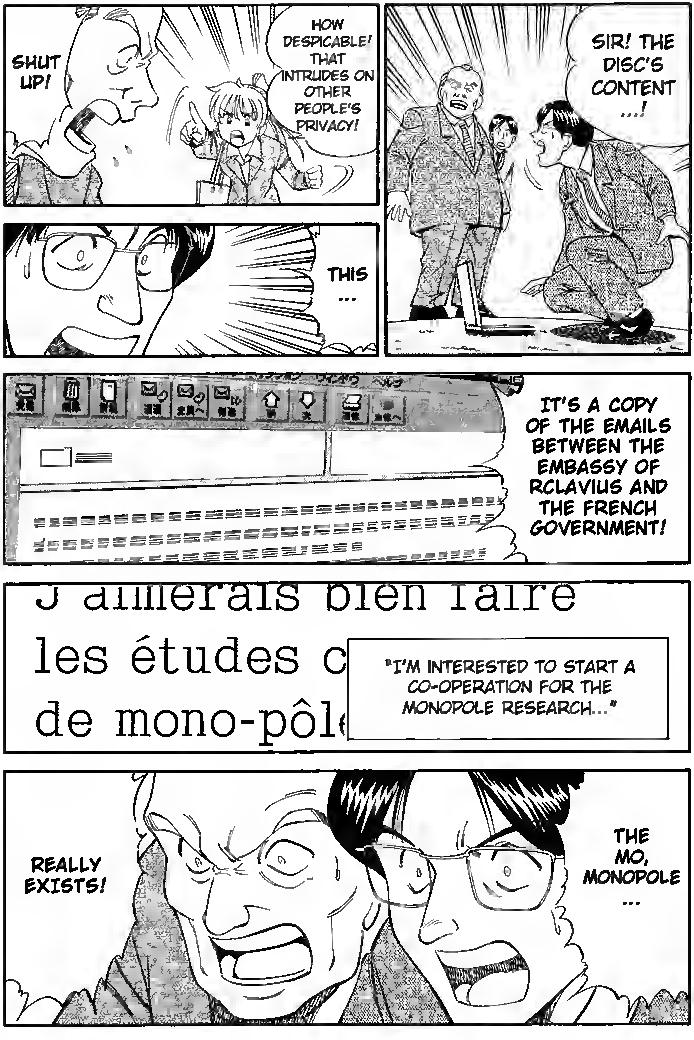

PLAK
LET GO! WHO ARE YOU!?
AH!

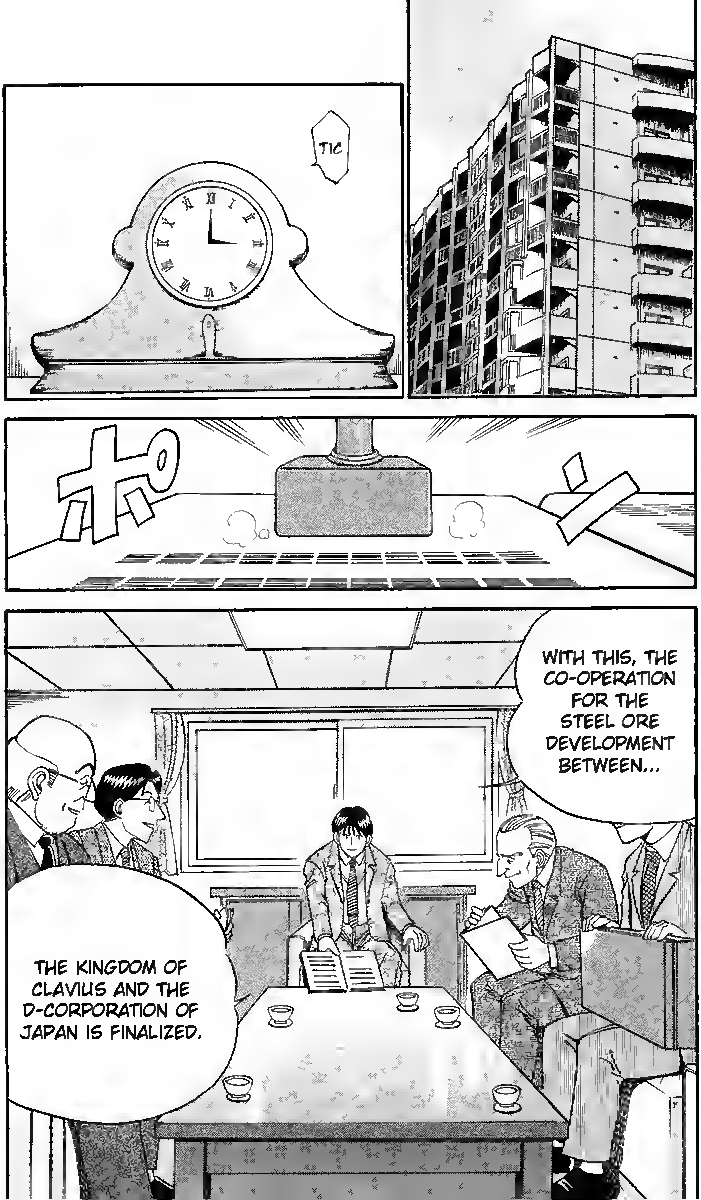
WHAT IS THIS DISC?


AH! DON'T LOOK AT THAT! THERE'S AN IMPORTANT DATA THERE!

SAFETY

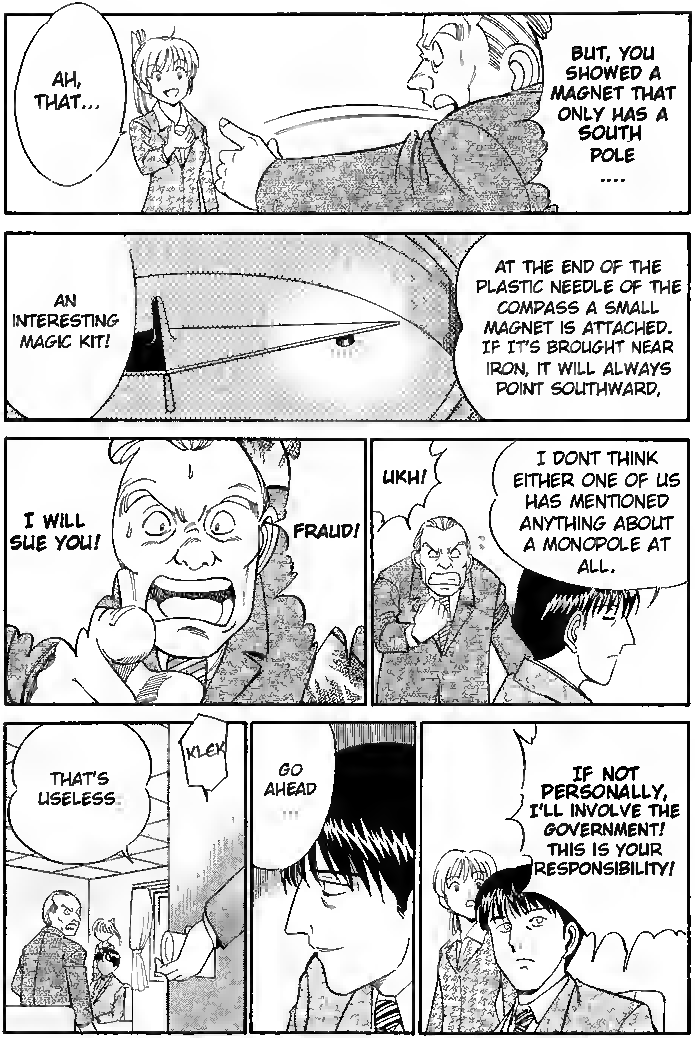
EH?
WAIT! LET'S LOOK WHAT'S INSIDE THE DISC!
!!
WHY DOES THE PERSON WORKING AT THE EMBASSY OF CLAVIUS...
KNOWS THE NAME OF THE FRENCH WOMAN...!?
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER BEHIND OUR BACK!

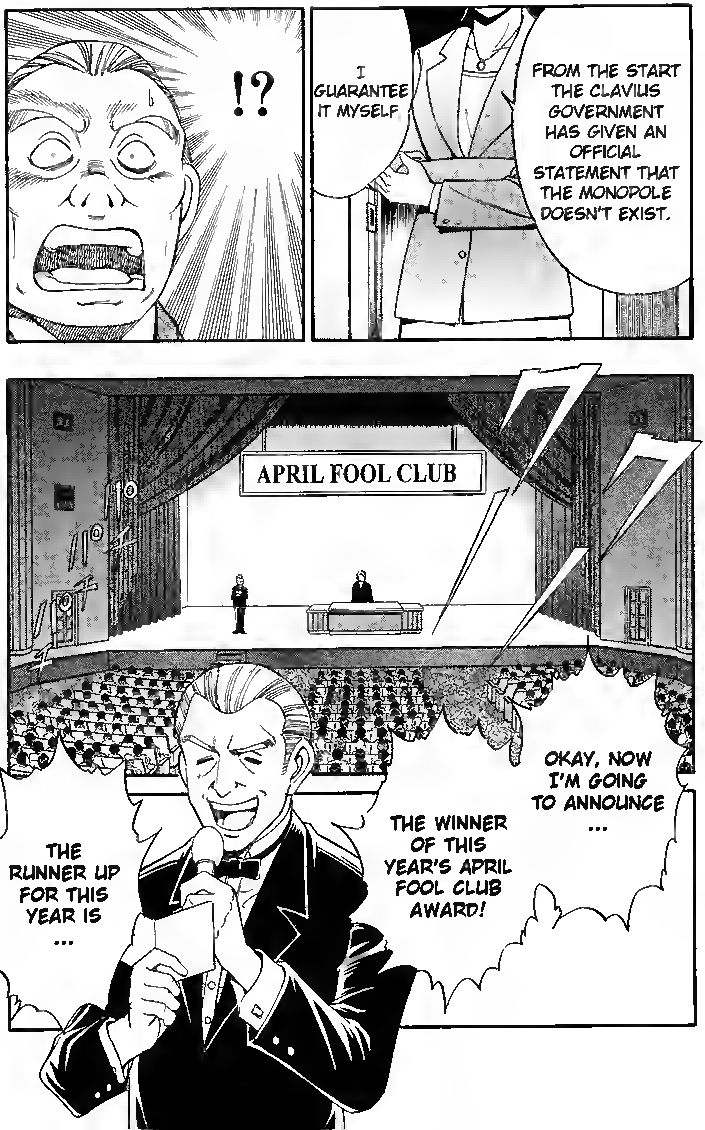

SHUT UP!
HOW DESPICABLE! THAT INTRUDES ON OTHER PEOPLE'S PRIVACY!
SIR! THE DISC'S CONTENT ...!
THIS ...
IT'S A COPY OF THE EMAILS BETWEEN THE EMBASSY OF RCLAVIUS AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT!
J'aimerais bien faire
les études c
de mono-pôl
"I'M INTERESTED TO START A CO-OPERATION FOR THE MONOPOLE RESEARCH..."
REALLY EXISTS!
THE MO, MONOPOLE ...


TIC
ポ
ン
WITH THIS, THE CO-OPERATION FOR THE STEEL ORE DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN...
THE KINGDOM OF CLAVIUS AND THE D-CORPORATION OF JAPAN IS FINALIZED.

ABOUT THAT...
HA HA HA...
I'M TRULY GRATEFUL FOR THE FINANCIAL HELP FOR RE-BUILDING THE EMBANKMENT.
YOU KNOW, THE FOSSIL...
WE'RE ALREADY THIS FAR, WHY ARE YOU STILL HIDING IT?
THAT THING?
THEN, ABOUT THAT THING ...
THIS WAS DISCOVERED NEAR THE IRON ORE MINE.
SIGH
OH,
THERE WERE MANY FOSSILS LIKE THIS FOUND.

STOP KIDDING AROUND!!
GO AHEAD AND INSPECT IT...
TAKE IT IF YOU WANT.
I KNOW FROM THE CORRESPON DENCE LETTER I SAW!
YOU WERE GOING TO START A CO-OPERATION WITH THE FRENCH TO RESEARCH IT, RIGHT?
PRETEND-ING THAT YOU DON'T KNOW!?
HURRY UP AND TAKE OUT THE MONOPOLE!
LOOKING UP OTHER'S PERSON'S PERSONAL BELONGINGS JUST DUE TO A MISUNDERSTAN-DING, IT CAN'T BE CONSIDERED AS EVIDENCE.
THEY READ MY FRIEND'S WRITING WITHOUT PERMISSION, AND BECOME FLUSTERED...
UM ...
CORRES-PONDENCE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


AH, THAT...
BUT, YOU SHOWED A MAGNET THAT ONLY HAS A SOUTH POLE ....
AN INTERESTING MAGIC KIT!
AT THE END OF THE PLASTIC NEEDLE OF THE COMPASS A SMALL MAGNET IS ATTACHED. IF IT'S BROUGHT NEAR IRON, IT WILL ALWAYS POINT SOUTHWARD,
I WILL SUE YOU!
FRAUD!
UKH!
I DONT THINK EITHER ONE OF US HAS MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT A MONOPOLE AT ALL.
THAT'S USELESS
KLEK
GO AHEAD ...
IF NOT PERSONALLY, I'LL INVOLVE THE GOVERNMENT! THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!


!?
I GUARANTEE IT MYSELF.
FROM THE START THE CLAVIUS GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT THAT THE MONOPOLE DOESN'T EXIST.
APRIL FOOL CLUB
OKAY, NOW I'M GOING TO ANNOUNCE ...
THE WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S APRIL FOOL CLUB AWARD!
THE RUNNER UP FOR THIS YEAR IS ...

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FROM THE KINGDOM OF CLAVIUS,
GRIA ELENOAR!

AH, I JUST LENT A CAR...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, MR FRENCH AMBASSA-DOR
SHE'S DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND. HER PLANS ARE ALWAYS TERRIFYING.
THANK GOODNESS, HER HEALTH IS RESTORED
THE WINNER FOR THIS YEAR'S APRIL FOOL CONTEST IIIIS....
YES, THIS IS THE MOMENT WE'VE ALL WAITING FOR! THE LAST ONE IS THE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE GRAND CHAMPION!
EH?
MISS KANA MIZUHARA !!
.M, ME?
CONG-RATULA-TIONS,

EH?
CONGRATULATIONS, PLEASE WORK HARD FOR NEXT YEAR, TOO
WHAT CAN I DO, HER ONE TRICK HAS THE MOST IMPACT
ENDING UP AS A RUNNER UP AGAIN,
next year..?
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW IF YOU HAVEN'T TRIED IT?
THERE MUST BE A WAY, RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS SILLY THING ANYMORE ...
Q.E.D.
AAAH!

1st, April, 1999: Q.E.D.

Notes for Your Brain's Pleasure

@OdenWave

What is ODA?

- One Piece mangaka – Just kidding, ODA is short for Official Development Assistance.
- By definition, it is described as "Flow of official financing administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as the main objective".
- To be considered ODA, it needs to contain these three elements:
  - Undertaken by the official sector,
  - with promotion of economic development and welfare as the main objective; and
  - at concessional financial terms (if a loan, having a grant element of at least 25 per cent).

http://www.mofa.go.jp/POLICY/oda/summary/1999/ref1.html
http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0XPQ/is_2000_May_15/ai_62122789/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Official_development_assistance

Arranged by Saturn Beaver
Typed by Lynossa

THANKS TO ANZU
& DRACO1988
FOR THE RAWS!!
TEXT: LYNOSSA
TL: RYO
PF: SPIFFYBUG
CLEANER: LYNOSSA
TS: RYUUYASHA
QC: RYUUYASHA
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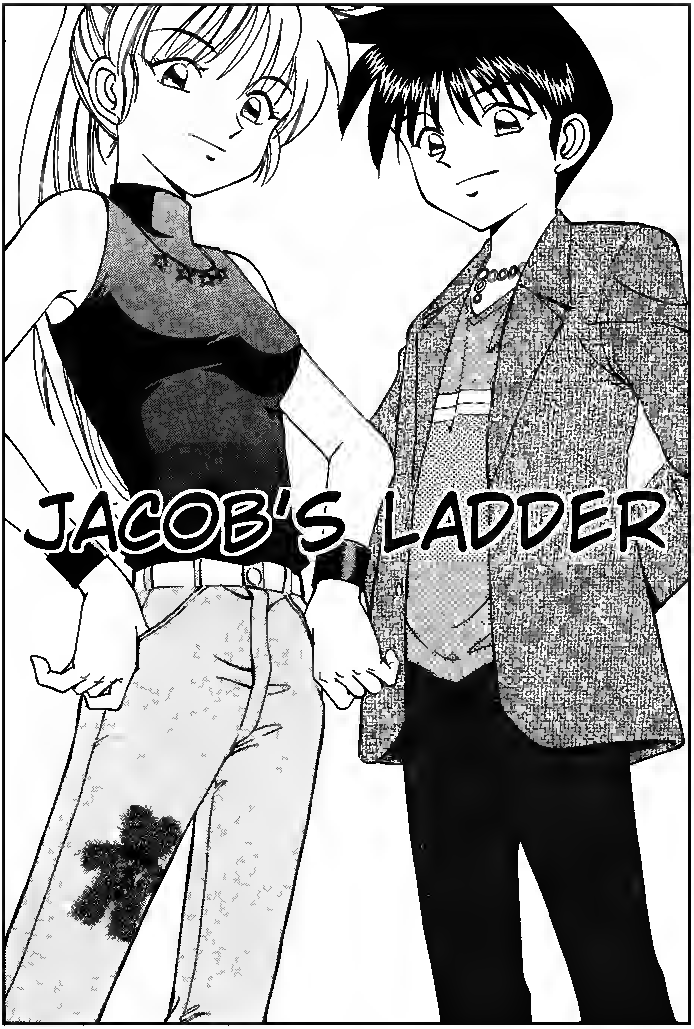
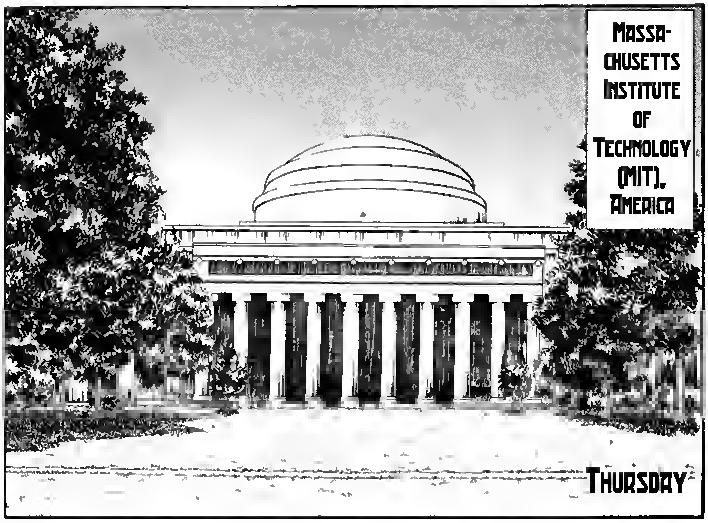
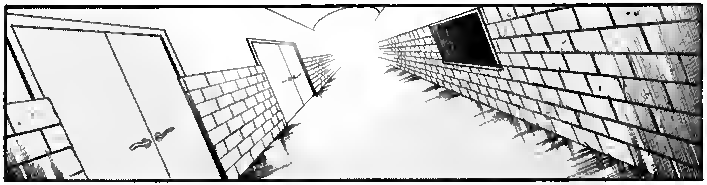
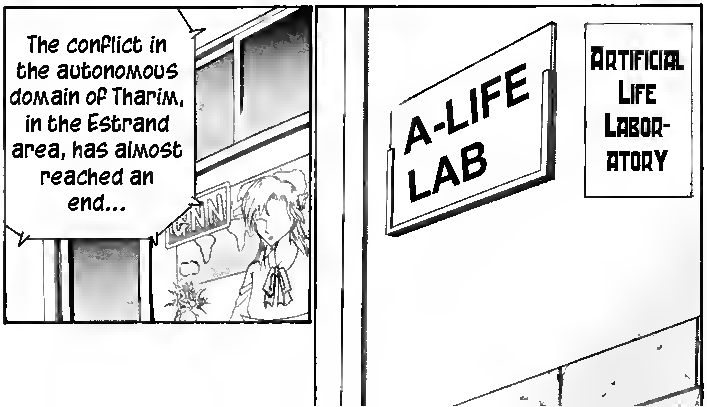
THANKS TO ANZU AND DRACO1988 FOR THE RAWS!!
TEXT: LYNOSSA
TL: SATURN BEAVER
PP: YASIRU89
CLEANER: GOBI
EDITOR: LYNOSSA
TS: RIONEO1
QC: RICKYS10
@ OrionWave


JACOB'S LADDER


Massa-
chusetts
Institute
of
Technology
(MIT),
America
Thursday




The conflict in the autonomous domain of Tharim, in the Estrand area, has almost reached an end...
CNN
A-LIFE LAB
Artificial
Life
Labor-
atory

NATO troops will be sent in.
If they refuse to accept the U.N. peace proposal...
pow-pow-pow-pow!
The situation in Russia ...
You idiot!
Show them America's strength and it'll be over with one shot!!
Ha ha ha!! Bombing them would work better than some stupid discussion!

You think America should bomb every conflict?
Of course! That's America's duty as the world's police!
The Soviet Union collapsed and the Cold War is over!
There may be less tension over all-out nuclear war these days, but the world is riddled with small-scale ethnic conflicts
What'd you say?!
You don't know anything!
We'll protect the world with the strongest military power!
Ah!
America would be the enemy of every nation in the world!
If they dropped bombs all over the world

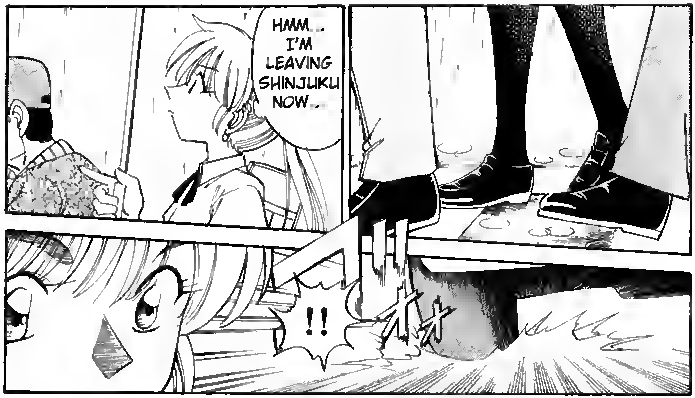
KCHAK
Chief Eva!
Eva Sukta, Manager of the Artificial Life Lab
Oh, sure...
Can the "Clan" data be taken out now?
Ha ha ha... sorry
Your voices can be heard in the hall.
EVA
I'll open the file first...

What is it?
Eh?
What?
...Th-this is...
Wh-what happen-ed?!
!?

TOKYO, JAPAN
SATURDAY...
AKI-HA-BARA
東洋ラジオ
ORIENT RADIO
HEY, TOUMA-KUN! IT SUCKS THAT IT'S RAINING ON A SATURDAY, DON'T YOU THINK?
AH, WELL... IT IS THE RAINY SEASON, AFTER ALL...

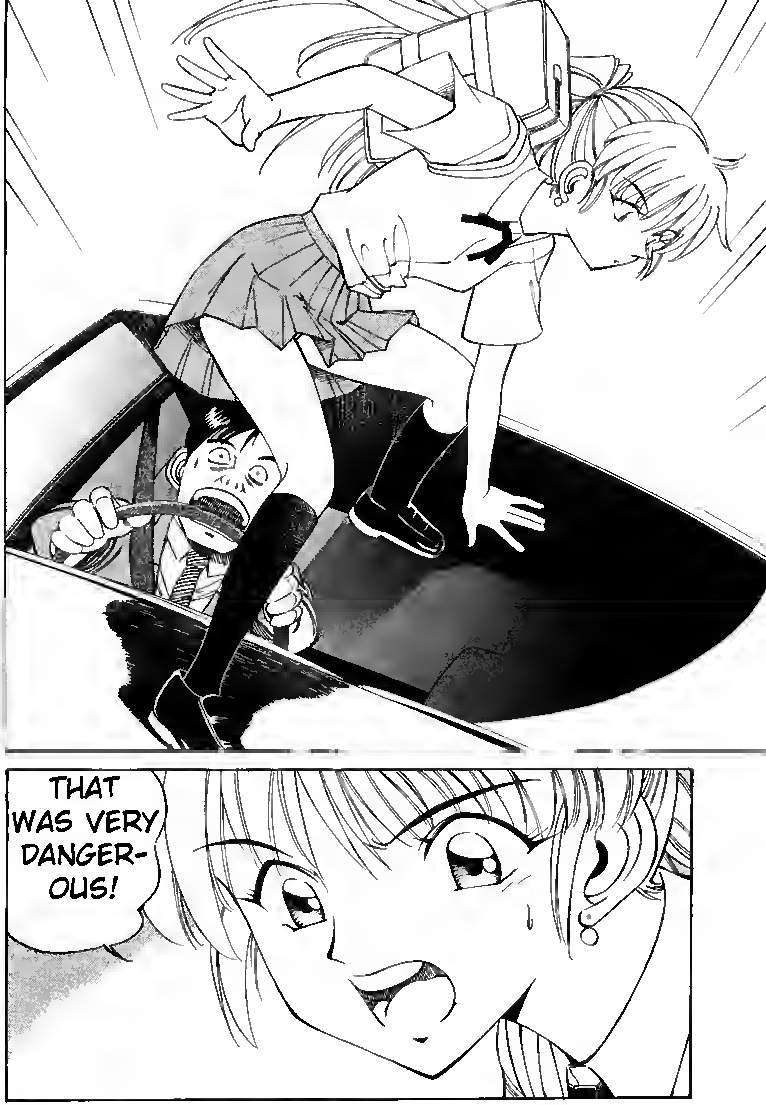
ON A DAY LIKE THIS, EVERYONE THINKS ALIKE!
THE MOVIE THEATER'S FULL....
YOU SAID THAT WE WERE GOING SOMEWHERE EVEN MORE FUN...
OW OW OW OW!!
NOOGIE NOOGIE
WHO WOULD THINK A MECHA-NICAL PARTS STORE IS FUN?!
GRIP!

I'M GOING HOME!
HUH? BUT WE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE...
I KNOW! SHALL I TEACH YOU HOW TO MAKE A SIMPLE RADIO?
DON'T EVEN BOTHER!
HE'S SUCH AN IDIOT!
THAT'S NOT SOMEWHERE YOU INVITE A GIRL TO!
BLINK

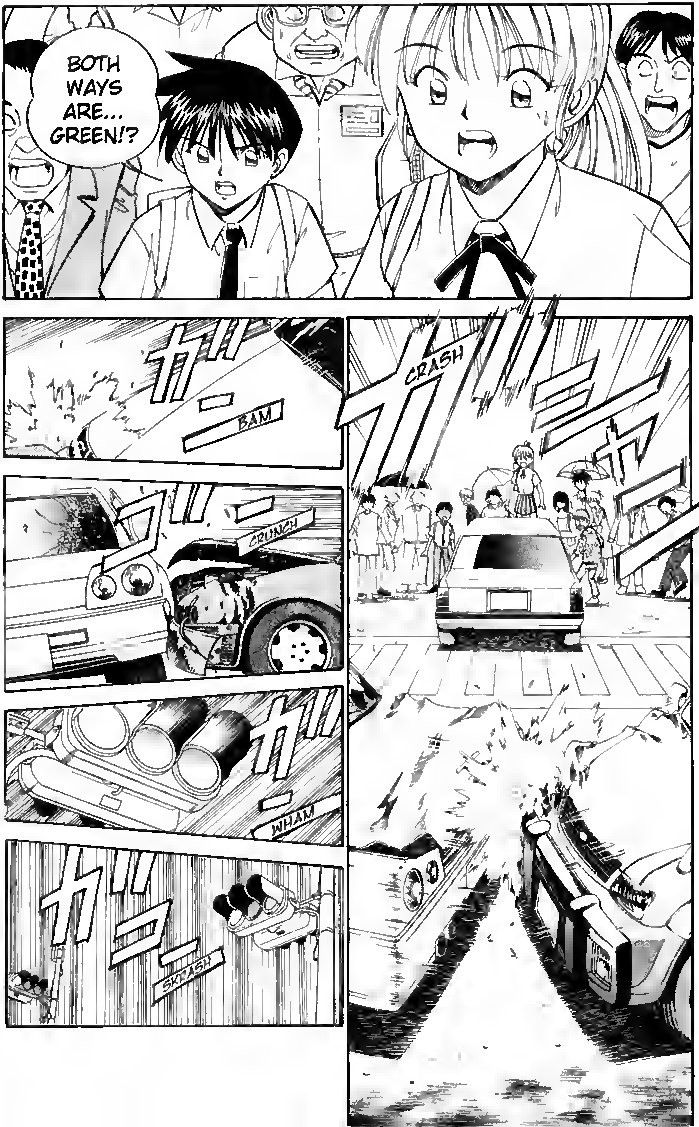

HMM.. I'M LEAVING SHINJUKU NOW..
!!
ホオ

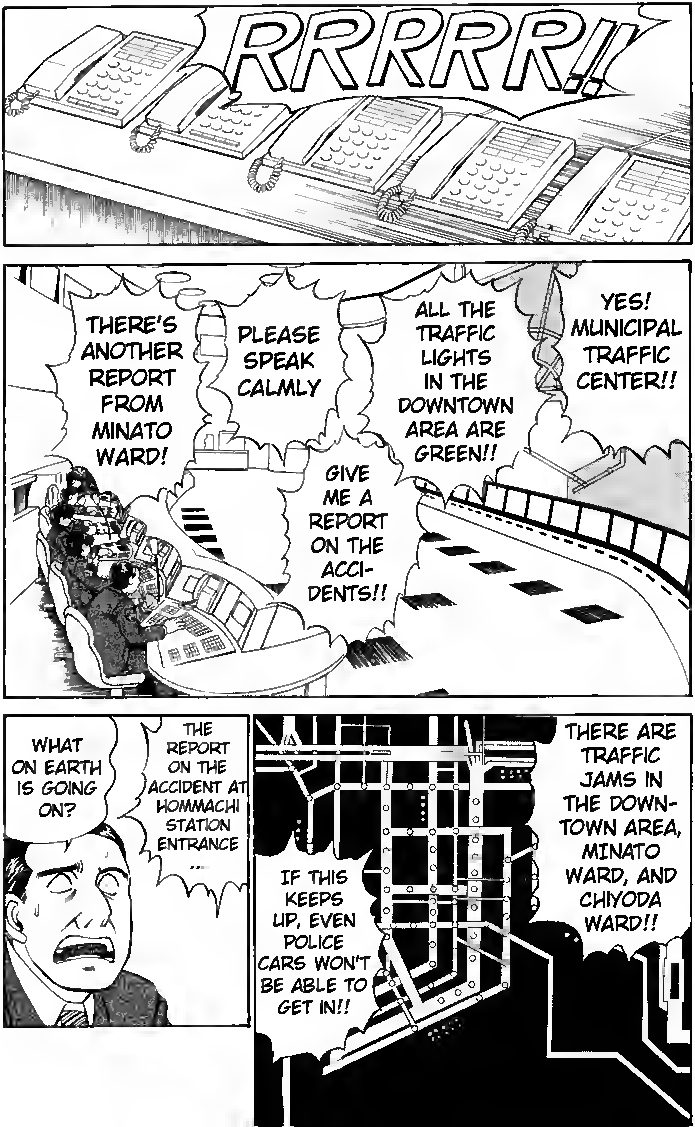
HUH?!
VROOOM

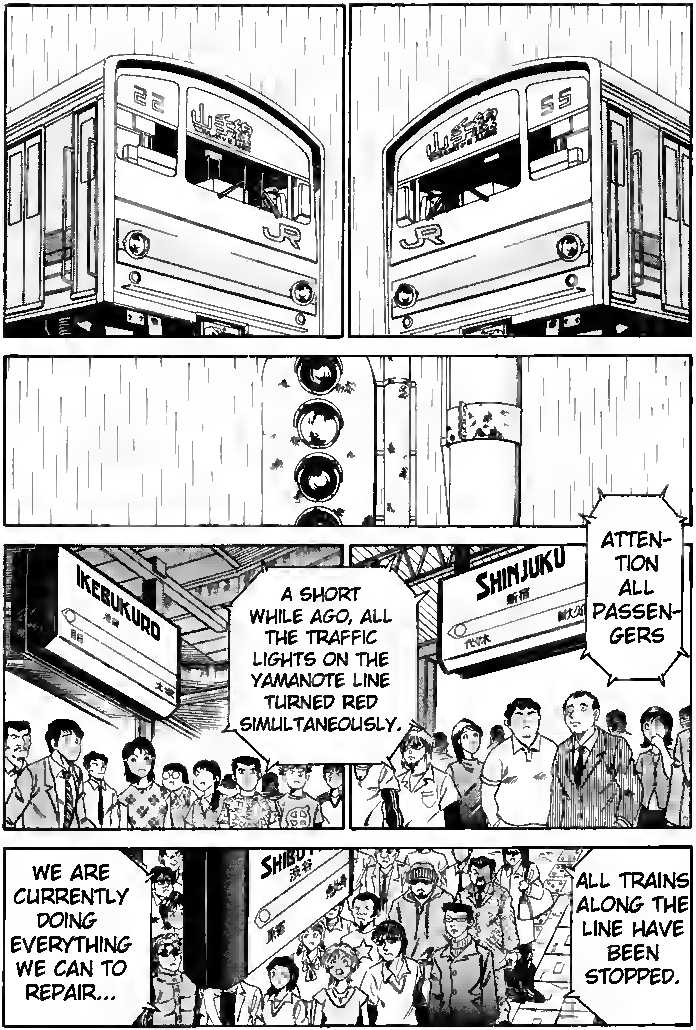
LOOK OUT, MISTER!
WAAAH!
SCREEEEEEE
BAM
AAAAH!!


THAT WAS VERY DANGER-OUS!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MISS?
YOU WEREN'T HURT, WERE YOU, MISTER?
YEAH
MIZUHARA -SAN! ARE YOU OKAY?!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU!
YOU'RE MY SAVIOR!
WHAT WAS THAT !?
STOW IT!! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CROSSED ON RED!!
YOU MORON !!
RUNNING A RED LIGHT, WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING?!


BOTH WAYS ARE... GREEN!?
BAM
CRUNCH
WHAM
SKRASH
CRASH

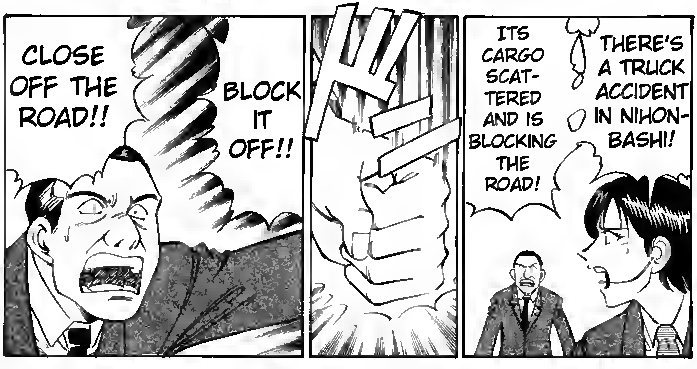

RRRRR!!
YES! MUNICIPAL TRAFFIC CENTER!!
ALL THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA ARE GREEN!!
GIVE ME A REPORT ON THE ACCI-DENTS!!
PLEASE SPEAK CALMLY
THERE'S ANOTHER REPORT FROM MINATO WARD!
THERE ARE TRAFFIC JAMS IN THE DOWN-TOWN AREA, MINATO WARD, AND CHIYODA WARD!!
IF THIS KEEPS UP, EVEN POLICE CARS WON'T BE ABLE TO GET IN!!
THE REPORT ON THE ACCIDENT AT HOMMACHI STATION ENTRANCE ...
WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?

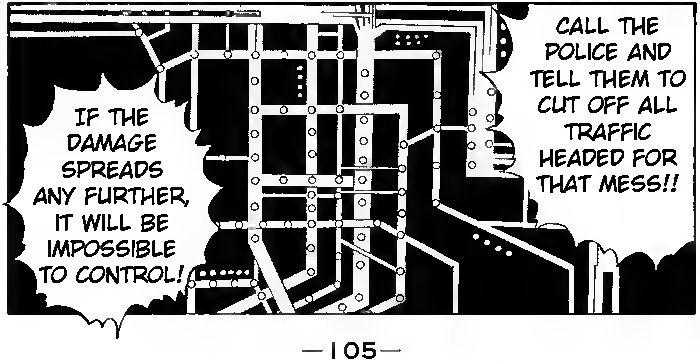

22
JR
55
JR
IKEBUKURO
SHINJUKU
新宿
ATTENTION ALL PASSENGERS
A SHORT WHILE AGO, ALL THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS ON THE YAMANOTE LINE TURNED RED SIMULTANEOUSLY.
SHIBUYA
渋谷
ALL TRAINS ALONG THE LINE HAVE BEEN STOPPED.
WE ARE CURRENTLY DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO REPAIR...

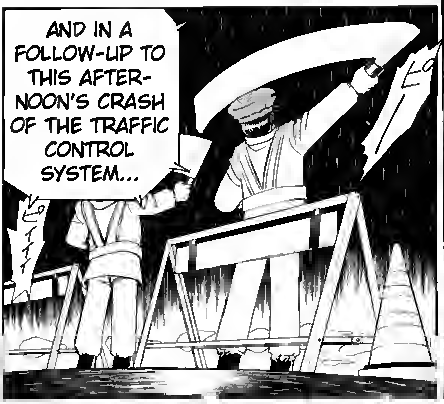
ガラ
PLEASE BE PATIENT! WE ARE CURRENTLY INVESTIG-ATING THE CAUSES. .
GIVE ME MY MONEY BACK!
WHEN WILL IT BE FIXED ?!
CENTRAL COMMAND CENTER
THE SYSTEM'S DOWN!? WHAT HAPPENED!?
COULD IT BE TERROR-ISTS?
IS IT A COMPUTER VIRUS...!?
I DON'T KNOW!! IT'S NOT ACCEPTING ANY INPUT!!

I CAN'T RUN A 24 HOUR STORE WITH NOTHING TO SELL!!
IF WE DON'T HAVE THOSE GOODS, WE'RE SCREWED !!
YOU CAN'T MAKE THE DELIVERY BECAUSE OF THE TRAFFIC JAMS CAUSED BY THE LIGHTS?
24
PLEASE SEND BACK-UP!
WE'RE CONTROLLING THE TRAFFIC NOW, BUT THERE'S TOO MANY CARS!
FWEEE
FWEEEET!!
SO SLOW!!
WHY AREN'T WE EVEN MOVING?!

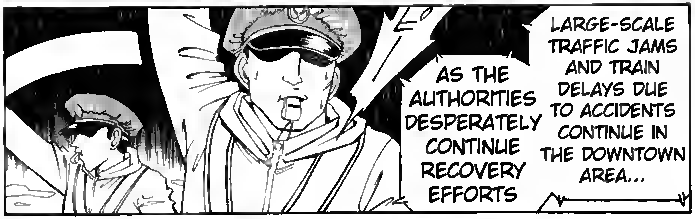
TRAFFIC AROUND IWAMOTO IS COMPLETELY BLOCKED OFF!
IT'S BACKED UP 25 KM FROM THE HONCHO ENTRANCE!
TRAFFIC IS BACKED UP FOR 20 KM FROM HAKOZAKI AND THE DOWNTOWN AREA!

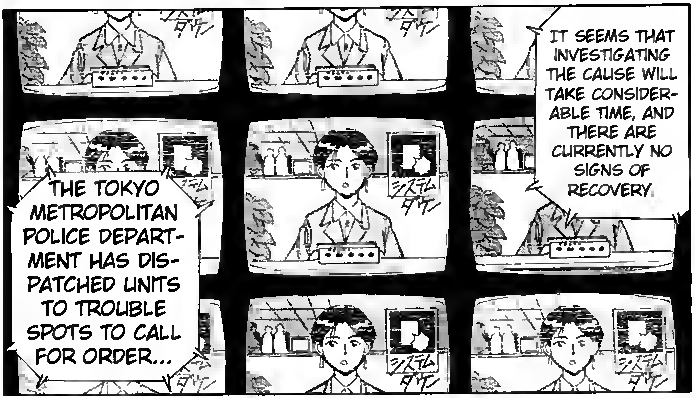

CLOSE OFF THE ROAD!!
BLOCK IT OFF!!
ITS CARGO SCAT-TERED AND IS BLOCKING THE ROAD!
THERE'S A TRUCK ACCIDENT IN NIHON-BASHI!

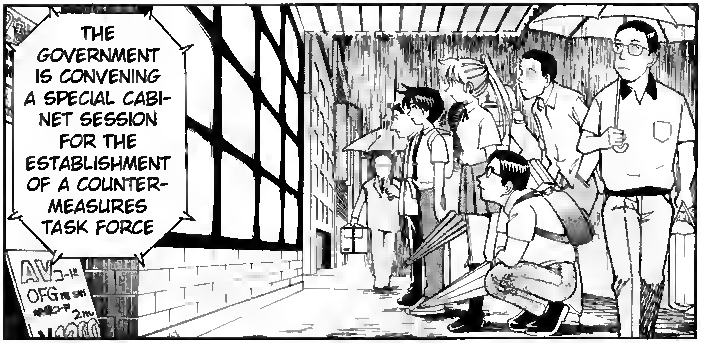

IF THE DAMAGE SPREADS ANY FURTHER, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL!
CALL THE POLICE AND TELL THEM TO CUT OFF ALL TRAFFIC HEADED FOR THAT MESS!!

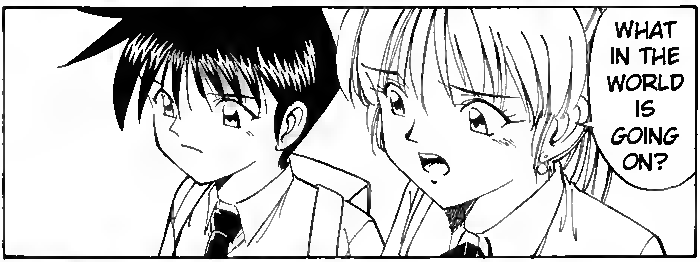

AND IN A FOLLOW-UP TO THIS AFTERNOON'S CRASH OF THE TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM...
ピーッ!!

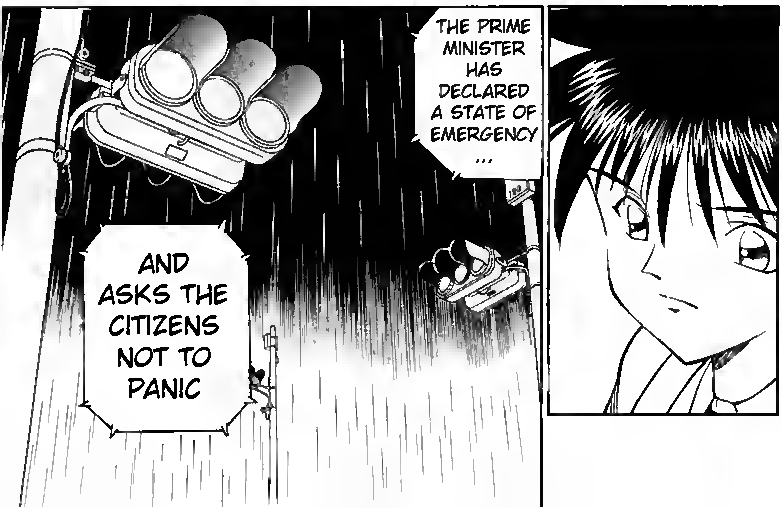
ROCK


AS THE AUTHORITIES DESPERATELY CONTINUE RECOVERY EFFORTS
LARGE-SCALE TRAFFIC JAMS AND TRAIN DELAYS DUE TO ACCIDENTS CONTINUE IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA...


IT SEEMS THAT INVESTIGATING THE CAUSE WILL TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME, AND THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO SIGNS OF RECOVERY.
THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS DISPATCHED UNITS TO TROUBLE SPOTS TO CALL FOR ORDER...
システム ダウン

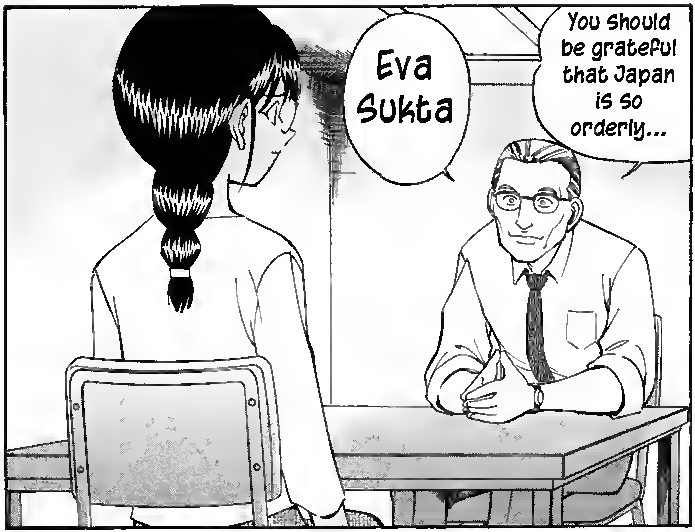

THE GOVERNMENT IS CONVENING A SPECIAL CABINET SESSION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNTER-MEASURES TASK FORCE


WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?

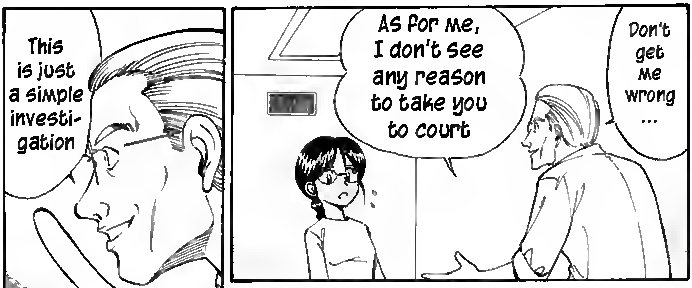

THE PRIME MINISTER HAS DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY ...
AND ASKS THE CITIZENS NOT TO PANIC

YOU MAY NOT LIVE IN THIS LAND
GO TO THE PROMISED LAND
GOD ALMIGHTY GIVES THIS LAND TO YOUR DESC-ENDENTS

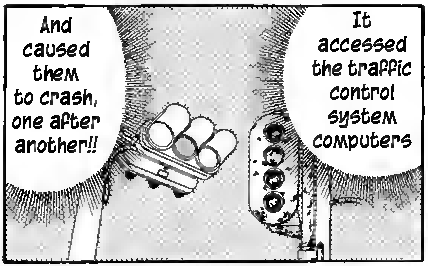
Langley, Virginia, just outside of Washington D.C., America
Sunday
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
58 people injured, zero deaths
I think it deserves to be called a miracle
Such a low number, despite the widespread panic?

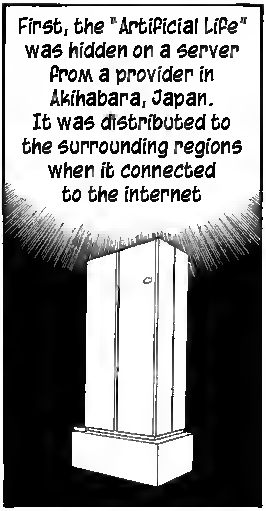

Eva Sukita
You should be grateful that Japan is so orderly...

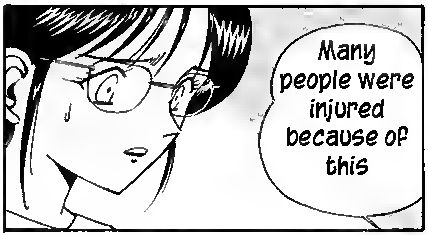
The program your team developed ran wild and crashed Japan's traffic control system


This is just a simple investigation
As for me, I don't see any reason to take you to court
Don't get me wrong ...

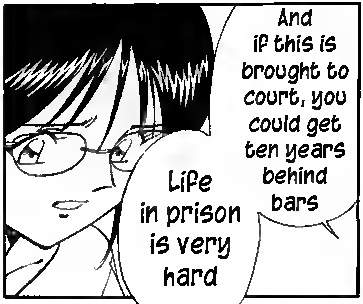
I just want to know what you know about this
Eva Sukta, born 1976, a student at MIT...
Okay, let's start again from the top
FLIP
Accoding to our investigation, the incident in Japan...
was entirely caused by your "Artificial Life"
Currently researching "Artificial Life" in computers...

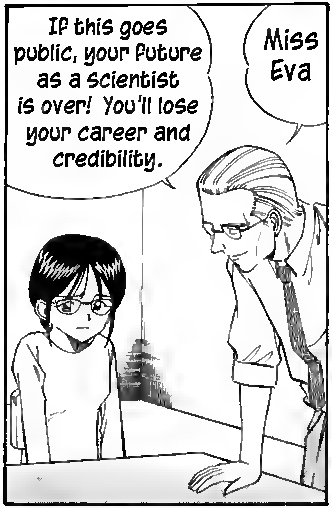

And caused them to crash, one after another!!
It accessed the traffic control system computers

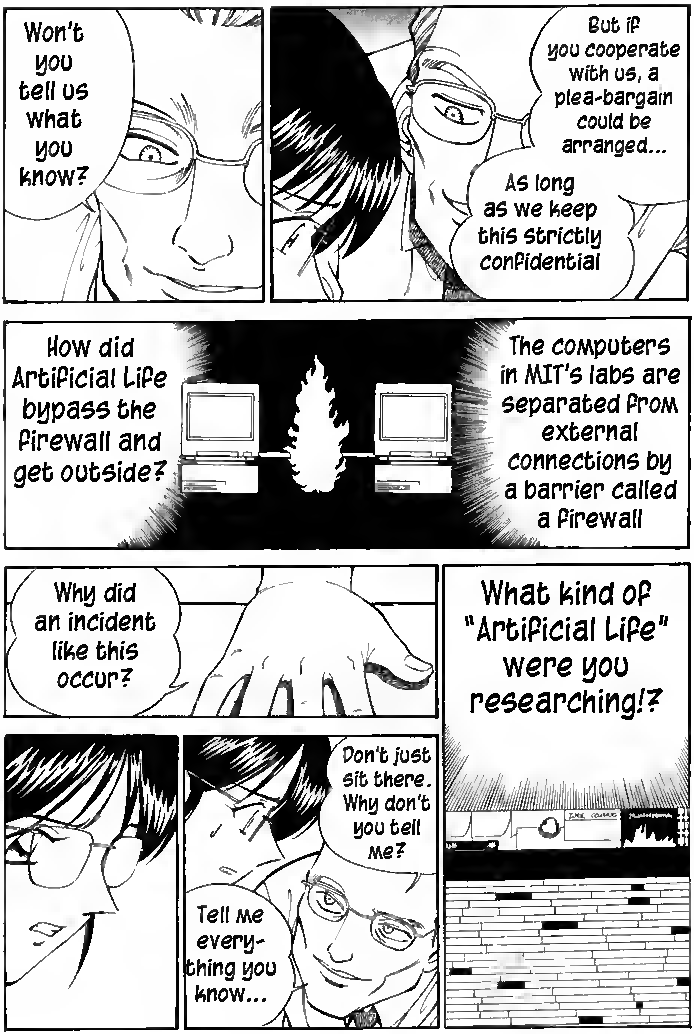

First, the "Artificial Life" was hidden on a server from a provider in Akihabara, Japan. It was distributed to the surrounding regions when it connected to the internet


Many people were injured because of this

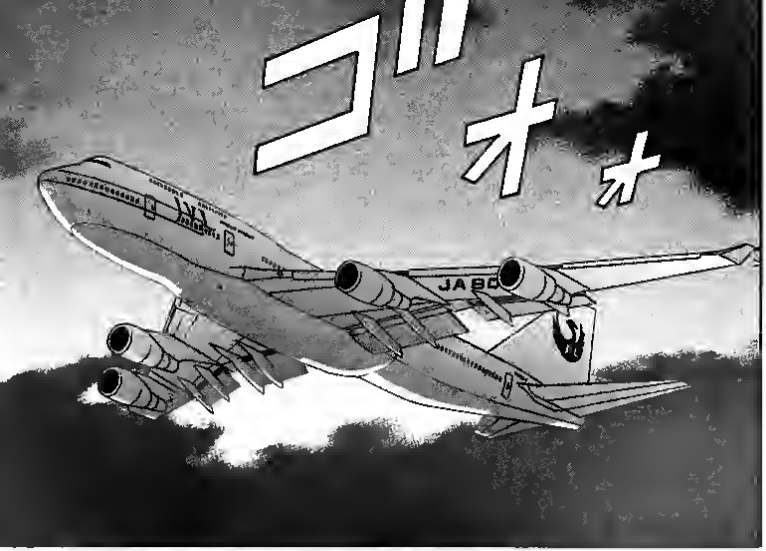
Everything you've done up until now will be for nothing


And if this is brought to court, you could get ten years behind bars
Life in prison is very hard


If this goes public, your future as a scientist is over! You'll lose your career and credibility.
Miss Eva


Won't you tell us what you know?
But if you cooperate with us, a plea-bargain could be arranged...
As long as we keep this strictly confidential
How did Artificial Life bypass the firewall and get outside?
The computers in MIT's labs are separated from external connections by a barrier called a firewall
Why did an incident like this occur?
What kind of "Artificial Life" were you researching!?
Don't just sit there. Why don't you tell me?
Tell me everything you know...

But it all just broke down...
After the chaos ended, it should have gone back to normal...
I don't know
I don't know anything
.....
We lost every-thing...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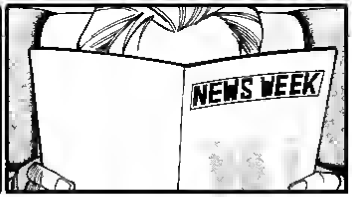
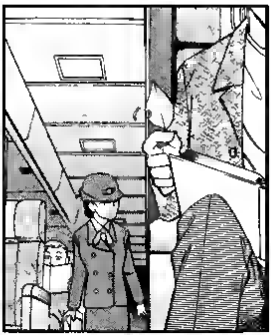
JAL

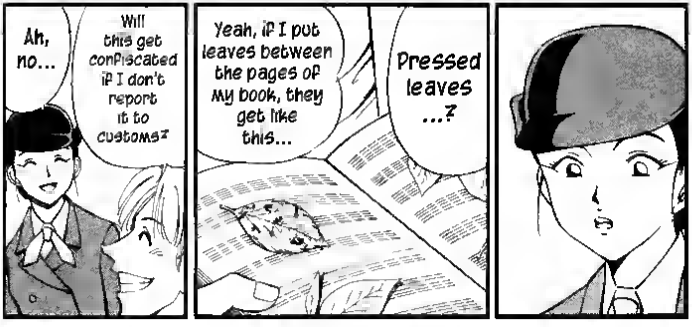
NEWS WEEK

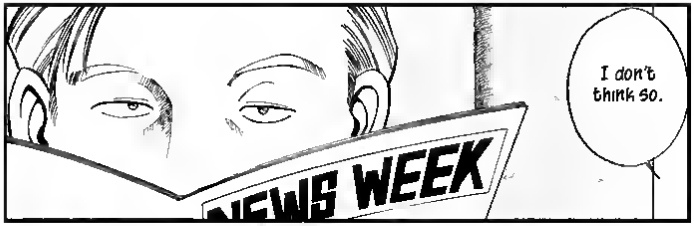

NEWS WEEK

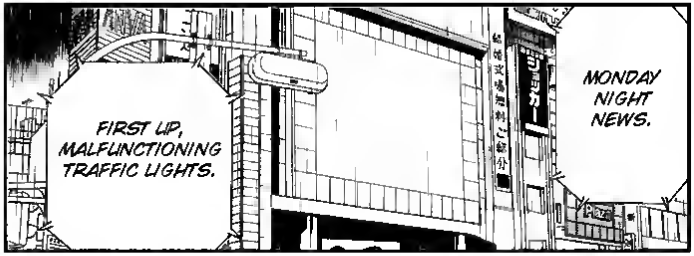
We will land at Narita airport shortly. Please fasten your seat belt.
Excuse me, sir

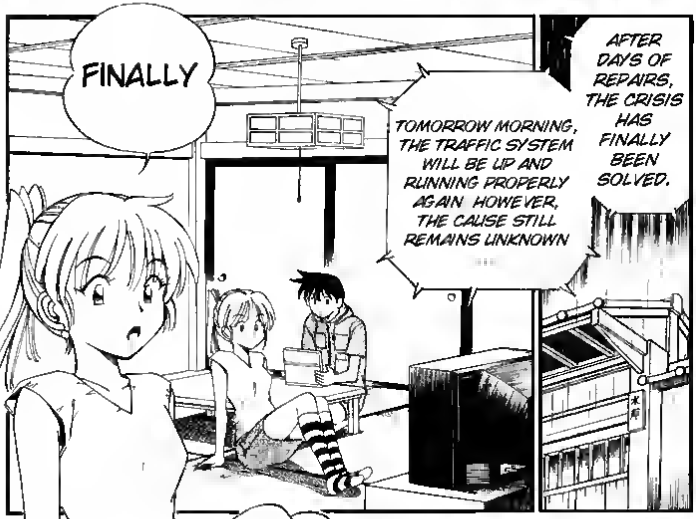


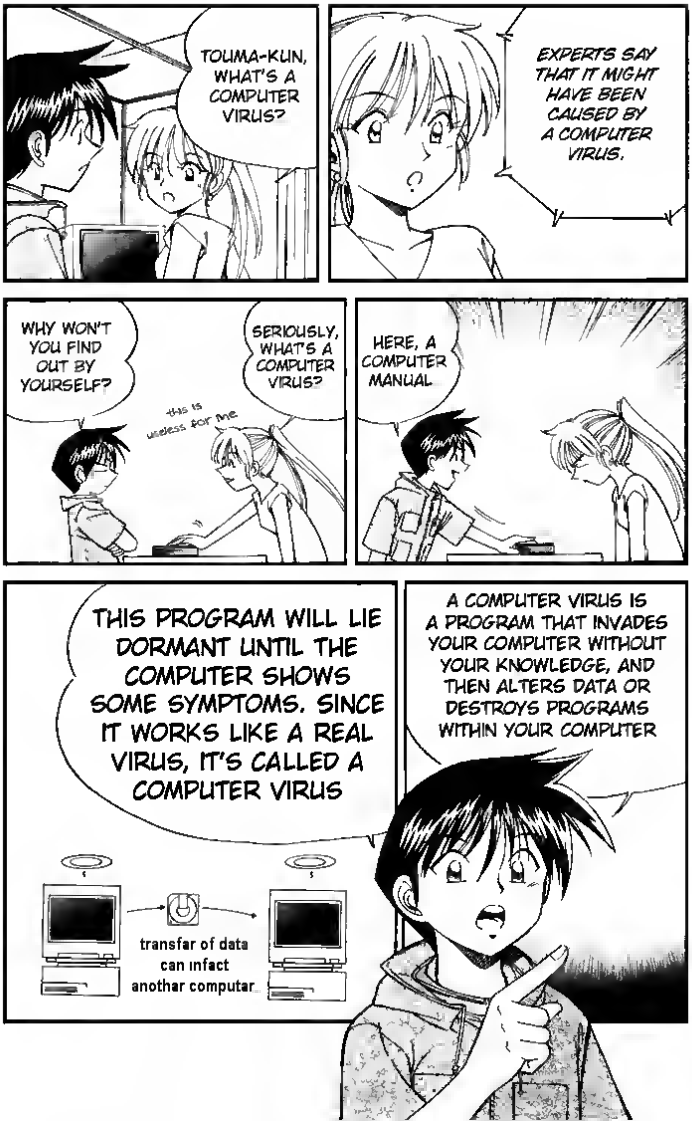
Ah! Sorry!!

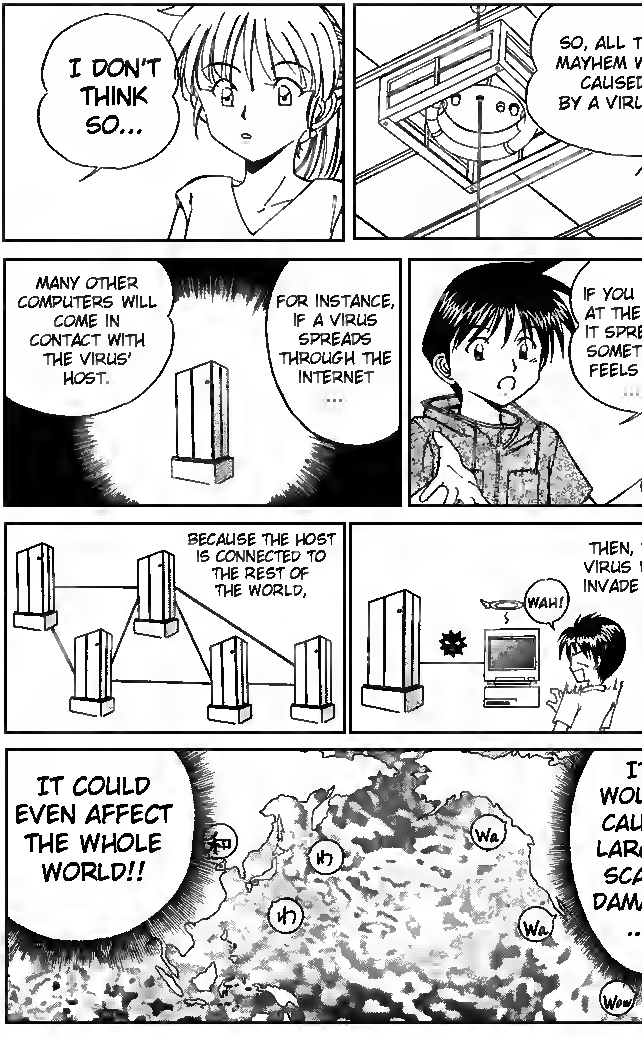

Ah, no...
Will this get confiscated if I don't report it to customs?
Yeah, if I put leaves between the pages of my book, they get like this...
Pressed leaves ...?

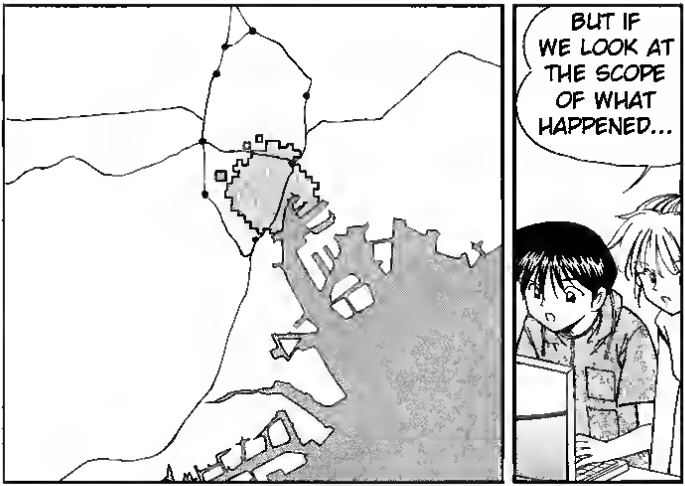

NEWS WEEK
I don't think so.

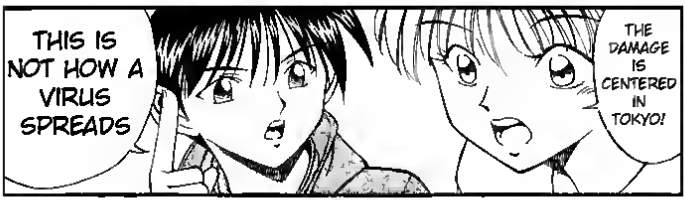

FIRST UP, MALFUNCTIONING TRAFFIC LIGHTS.
MONDAY NIGHT NEWS.

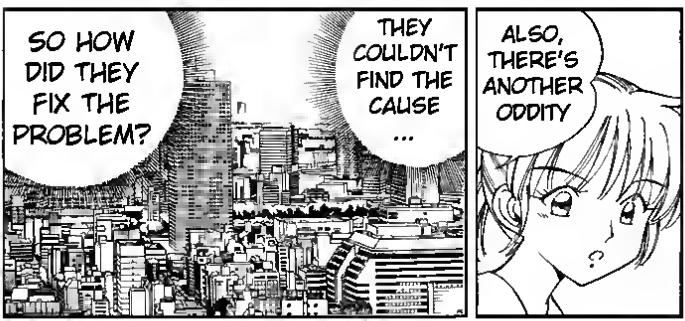

FINALLY
TOMORROW MORNING, THE TRAFFIC SYSTEM WILL BE UP AND RUNNING PROPERLY AGAIN HOWEVER, THE CAUSE STILL REMAINS UNKNOWN
AFTER DAYS OF REPAIRS, THE CRISIS HAS FINALLY BEEN SOLVED.

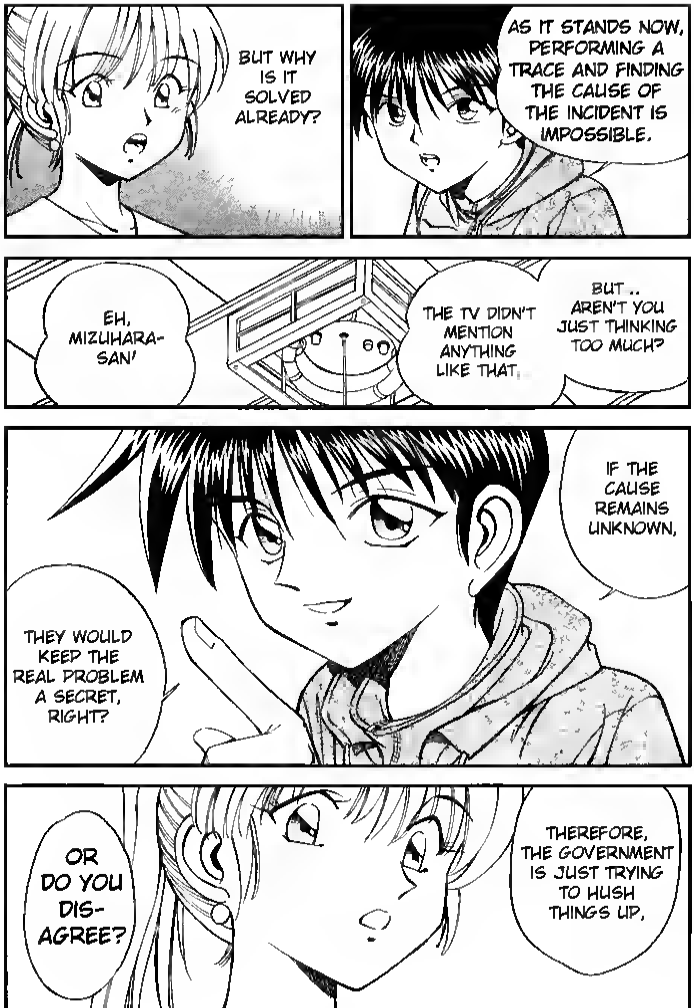

TOUMA-KUN, WHAT'S A COMPUTER VIRUS?
EXPERTS SAY THAT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A COMPUTER VIRUS.
WHY WON'T YOU FIND OUT BY YOURSELF?
SERIOUSLY, WHAT'S A COMPUTER VIRUS?
this is useless for me
HERE, A COMPUTER MANUAL
THIS PROGRAM WILL LIE DORMANT UNTIL THE COMPUTER SHOWS SOME SYMPTOMS. SINCE IT WORKS LIKE A REAL VIRUS, IT'S CALLED A COMPUTER VIRUS
A COMPUTER VIRUS IS A PROGRAM THAT INVADES YOUR COMPUTER WITHOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE, AND THEN ALTERS DATA OR DESTROYS PROGRAMS WITHIN YOUR COMPUTER
transfar of data
can infact
anothar computar


I DON'T THINK SO...
SO, ALL THIS MAYHEM WAS CAUSED BY A VIRUS?
MANY OTHER COMPUTERS WILL COME IN CONTACT WITH THE VIRUS' HOST.
FOR INSTANCE, IF A VIRUS SPREADS THROUGH THE INTERNET ...
IF YOU LOOK AT THE WAY IT SPREADS, SOMETHING FEELS ODD ...
BECAUSE THE HOST IS CONNECTED TO THE REST OF THE WORLD,
THEN, THE VIRUS WILL INVADE PCS
WAH!
IT COULD EVEN AFFECT THE WHOLE WORLD!!
IT WOULD CAUSE LARGE-SCALE DAMAGE ...
Wa
Wa
Wa
Wa
Wow


BUT IF WE LOOK AT THE SCOPE OF WHAT HAPPENED...


THIS IS NOT HOW A VIRUS SPREADS
THE DAMAGE IS CENTERED IN TOKYO!


SO HOW DID THEY FIX THE PROBLEM?
THEY COULDN'T FIND THE CAUSE ...
ALSO, THERE'S ANOTHER ODDITY

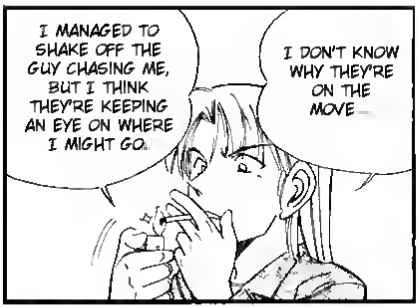

BUT WHY IS IT SOLVED ALREADY?
AS IT STANDS NOW, PERFORMING A TRACE AND FINDING THE CAUSE OF THE INCIDENT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
EH, MIZUHARA-SAN!
THE TV DIDN'T MENTION ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
BUT .. AREN'T YOU JUST THINKING TOO MUCH?
IF THE CAUSE REMAINS UNKNOWN,
THEY WOULD KEEP THE REAL PROBLEM A SECRET, RIGHT?
THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT IS JUST TRYING TO HUSH THINGS UP,
OR DO YOU DIS-AGREE?

P P P P
AH! MY CELL PHONE!
HELLO, TOUMA HERE!
AGH, I WONDER WHEN IT'LL STOP RAINING!?
I NEVER HEARD THAT JAPAN HAD A RAINY SEASON!!

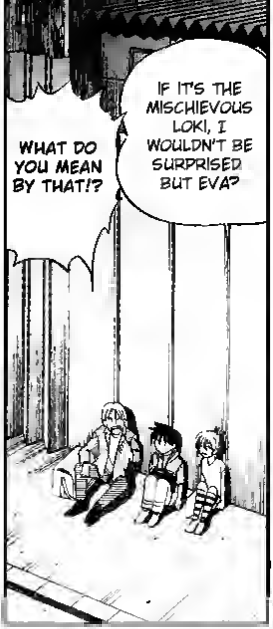
I'VE GOT A LITTLE PROBLEM, SO I NEED YOUR HELP
WHAT ON EARTH ...
LOKI ...!?
EH, OKAY ...
MIZUHARA-SAN, PLEASE TURN OFF THE LIGHTS
BUT BEFORE THAT, PLEASE CHECK IF ANYONE SUSPICIOUS IS LURKING AROUND YOUR HOUSE.
!!
CLICK

品川 外
あ 1234
AH, THAT LICENSE PLATE IS A DIPLOMAT'S
EH? THAT CAR STOPPED IN A RESTRICTED AREA
A DIPLOMAT? AN ORDINARY CAR LIKE THAT?
HM ...?
LOKI! IS THAT THE CIA?
HA HA HA! BINGO!
JUST GET OVER HERE, BUT MAKE SURE THEY DON'T SEE YOU! I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING LATER!
COCK
パチンコ

BUT TO BE HUNTED DOWN BY THE CIA.. I WONDER WHAT HE DID?
HE CAME HERE LAST CHRISTMAS WITH THAT EVA GIRL...
LOKI'S YOUR MATH-FREAK FRIEND FROM MIT...
秋葉原駅
Akihabara Station
YEAH
PWEEEEET!
AKI-HA-BA-RA
EVA WAS ARRESTED BY THE CIA!?

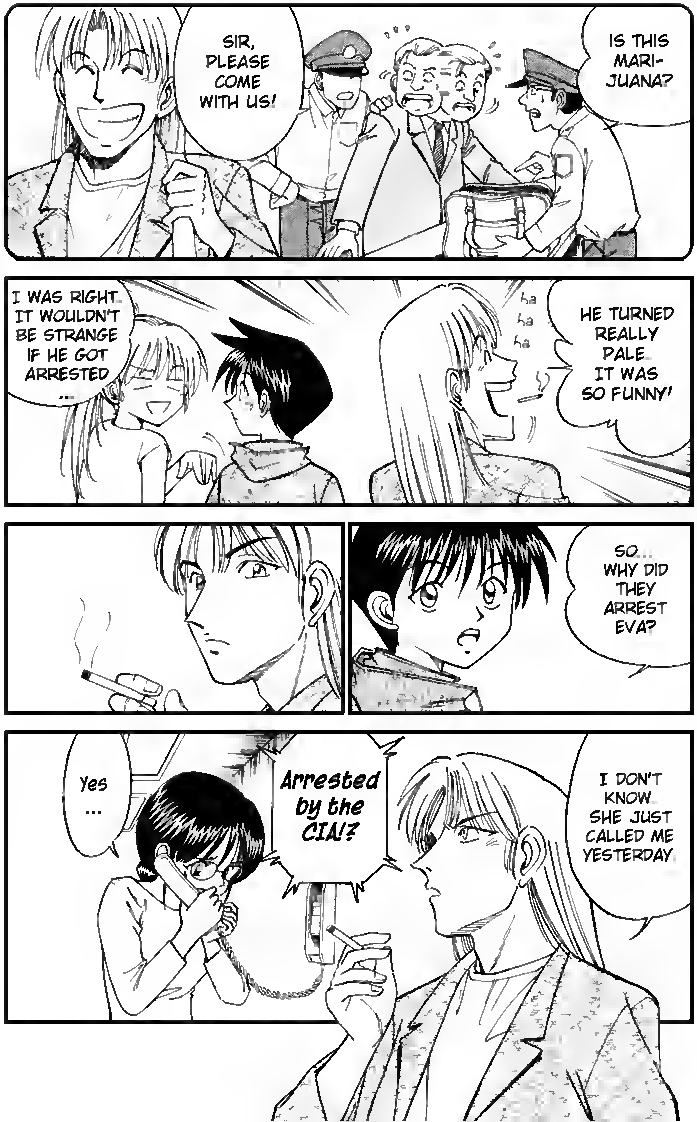

I MANAGED TO SHAKE OFF THE GUY CHASING ME, BUT I THINK THEY'RE KEEPING AN EYE ON WHERE I MIGHT GO.
I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'RE ON THE MOVE...

SHAKING OFF THE CIA... HOW DID YOU DO IT?


WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT!?
IF IT'S THE MISCHIEVOUS LOKI, I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED BUT EVA?

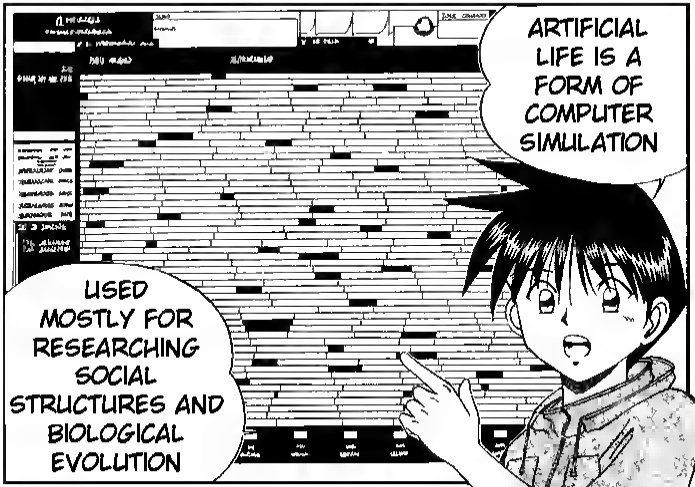
WITH THIS!

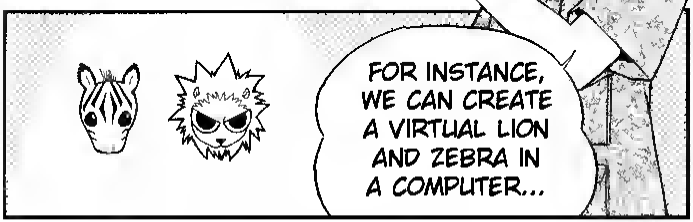
I CRUSHED THEM AND SLIPPED THEM INTO HIS LUGGAGE.
THOSE DRIED LEAVES?

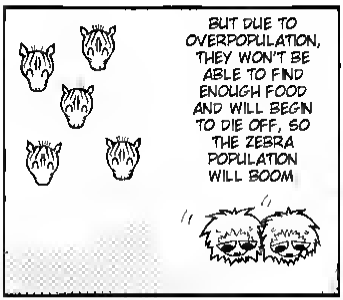

SIR, PLEASE COME WITH US!
IS THIS MARI-JUANA?
I WAS RIGHT. IT WOULDN'T BE STRANGE IF HE GOT ARRESTED ...
ha ha ha
HE TURNED REALLY PALE. IT WAS SO FUNNY!
SO... WHY DID THEY ARREST EVA?
Yes ...
Arrested by the CIA!?
I DON'T KNOW. SHE JUST CALLED ME YESTERDAY

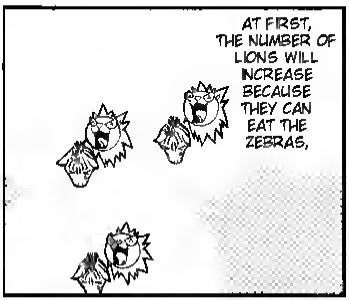
They said that the artificial life I created infiltrated a major server in Akihabara and caused a bunch of accidents.
I don't know ...
Why?
They said I could call someone, but only once...
I'm being investigated right now.
I'm scared ...
What should I do, Loki?
So many people were injured because of me...

Don't cry! I'll do some-thing!!
Loki ...
What... will happen to me?
SO, THAT'S HOW IT IS...
computer manual
Do I have to repeat myself?
SERIOUS-LY, WHAT'S AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE!?
WHAT'S AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE?

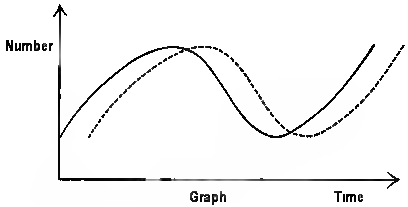

ARTIFICIAL LIFE IS A FORM OF COMPUTER SIMULATION
USED MOSTLY FOR RESEARCHING SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND BIOLOGICAL EVOLUTION


FOR INSTANCE, WE CAN CREATE A VIRTUAL LION AND ZEBRA IN A COMPUTER...

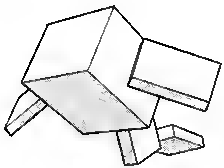

BUT DUE TO OVERPOPULATION, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND ENOUGH FOOD AND WILL BEGIN TO DIE OFF, SO THE ZEBRA POPULATION WILL BOOM


AT FIRST, THE NUMBER OF LIONS WILL INCREASE BECAUSE THEY CAN EAT THE ZEBRAS,

FROM THIS RESEARCH, WE CAN FIND THE BALANCE IN A POPULATION



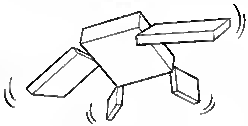
AND DEPENDING ON THE COMMANDS GIVEN,



SOME CREATURES CAN EVOLVE

Imaginary life forms

WE CAN STUDY THEIR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.



THE VIRTUAL LIFE FORMS CAN ADAPT THEIR BUILD BASED ON WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED FOR INSTANCE, BY EVOLVING INTO A SWIMMER

THEY CAN BE DIRECTED TOWARDS A CERTAIN OUTCOME.

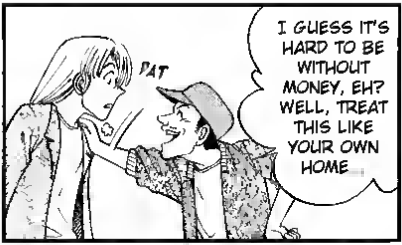
HOWEVER, BECAUSE ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORMS ONLY FOLLOW THE PROGRAMMED COMMANDS.

WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL WE INVESTIGATE
SO THE ARTIFICIAL LIFE THAT EVA CREATED CAUSED THIS PROBLEM IN JAPAN?
AWW! LOKI!
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT EVA-SAN, AREN'T YOU...?
WHO ELSE WOULD HELP THAT KIND OF A PERSON...
WHO ELSE WOULD HELP HER?
CAUSING THIS MUCH TROUBLE BECAUSE OF HER CLUMSINESS

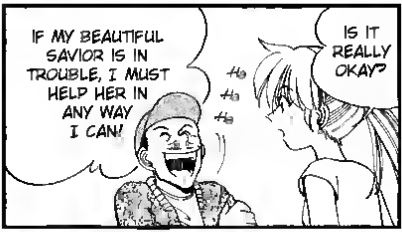
IT'S NOT JUST YOU!
WE'RE HERE, TOO!
?!!
ACK!
IF THE THREE OF US WORK TOGETHER ...
WE CAN DO IT!

WELL, ISN'T THAT GOOD?
HOW OPTI-MISTIC ...
BUT IF WE USE A CREDIT CARD, THEY'D DEFINITELY FIND OUT RIGHT AWAY.
WELL, WE CAN STAY IN A HOTEL...
SO WHAT NOW? MY HOUSE AND TOUMA-KUN'S HOUSE ARE PROBABLY BEING WATCHED BY THE CIA RIGHT NOW. WE DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO GO.
WE CAN HIDE SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE. IT WOULD BE EVEN BETTER IF IT HAS A COMPUTER
THAT'S RIGHT.. AND WE NEED A COMPUTER, TOO...
HEY!
AH!
SCREECH!

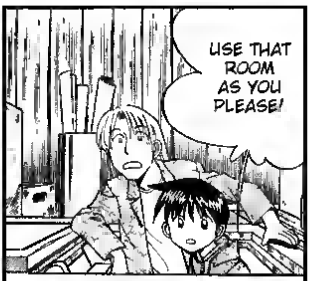
LET'S GO THERE... I'LL TREAT YOU TO DINNER
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! MY RESTAURANT IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAVED ME BEFORE, RIGHT? YOU LIVE AROUND HERE?
THE OJI-SAN WHO WAS ALMOST HIT BY A CAR
WHY?
EEEH ?
WE CAN'T GO THERE RIGHT NOW ...
AH, BUT...
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
お好み焼
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO EARLIER?
LOOKING FOR A PLACE WHERE YOUR FRIEND CAN STAY?


I GUESS IT'S HARD TO BE WITHOUT MONEY, EH? WELL, TREAT THIS LIKE YOUR OWN HOME
PAT

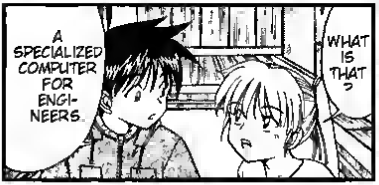
MY ATTIC HAPPENS TO BE EMPTY,
THERE'S ENOUGH ROOM FOR ONE PERSON.

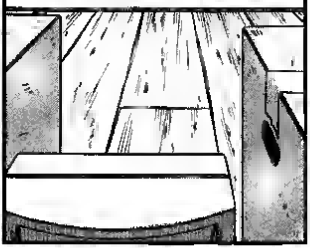

IS IT REALLY OKAY?
IF MY BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR IS IN TROUBLE, I MUST HELP HER IN ANY WAY I CAN!

EH?


USE THAT ROOM AS YOU PLEASE!

HEY THAT'S A WORK STATION, RIGHT?


WHAT IS THAT?
A SPECIALIZED COMPUTER FOR ENGI-NEERS.

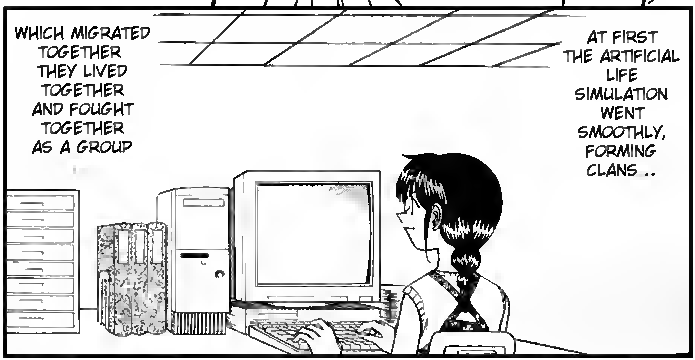


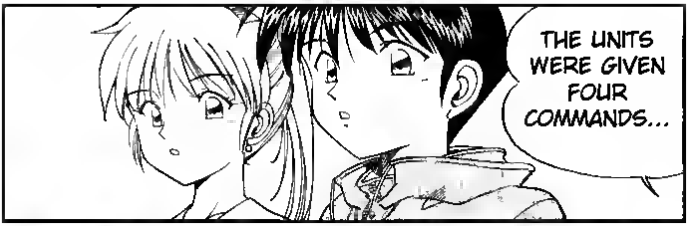
NO, NO! THE ELECTRONICS STORE NEXT DOOR ASKED ME TO HOLD IT FOR A WHILE!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT COMPUTERS...
AH
OJI-SAN, SO YOU HAVE AN AMAZING COMPUTER, HUH?
UNITED STATES, CIA
Continue the stake-out. We must find him.
You've lost him?
CLICK

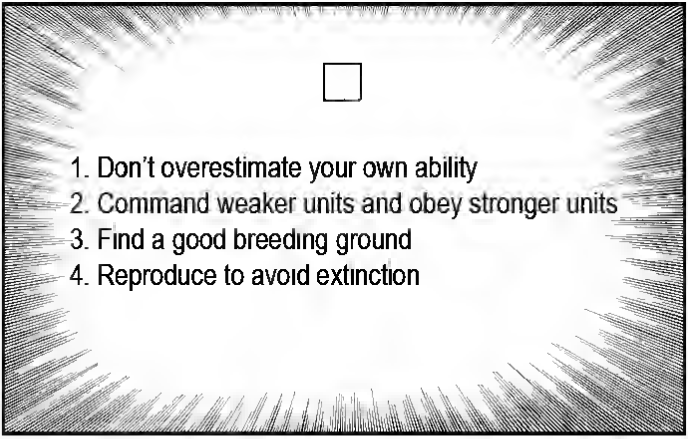
He's willing to risk his neck ...
Of course. MIT considers him a genius mathematician.
Your boyfriend is pretty slick, eh?
But don't get too cocky, now...
CONNECT THEM OVER THERE
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING!?
COME ON DOWN! TRY MY SPECIAL OKONOMIYAKI!
WHY IS IT SO QUIET UP HERE?
WHA-!?

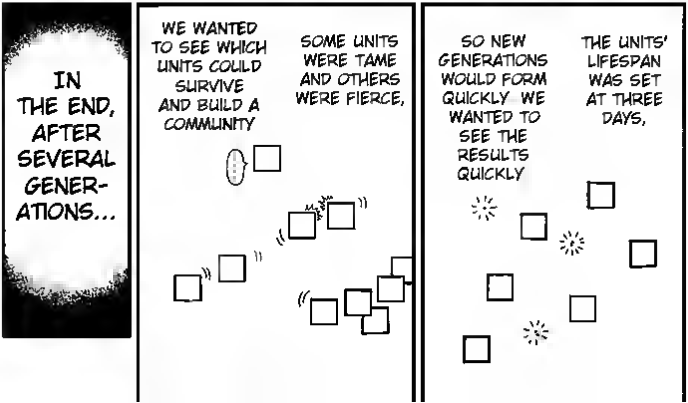
FIRE-WALL?
HMMM, THERE'S NO FIRE-WALL
SO THAT'S IT..?
WITHOUT A FIREWALL, SOMEONE COULD TAM-PER WITH THE ARTIFICIAL LIFE
IT'S A DEVICE TO REGULATE OUTSIDE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER
IT'S NOT GONNA EXPLODE, IS IT!?
MAYBE
Even I don't know
AAAH!! IS THAT SAFE!?

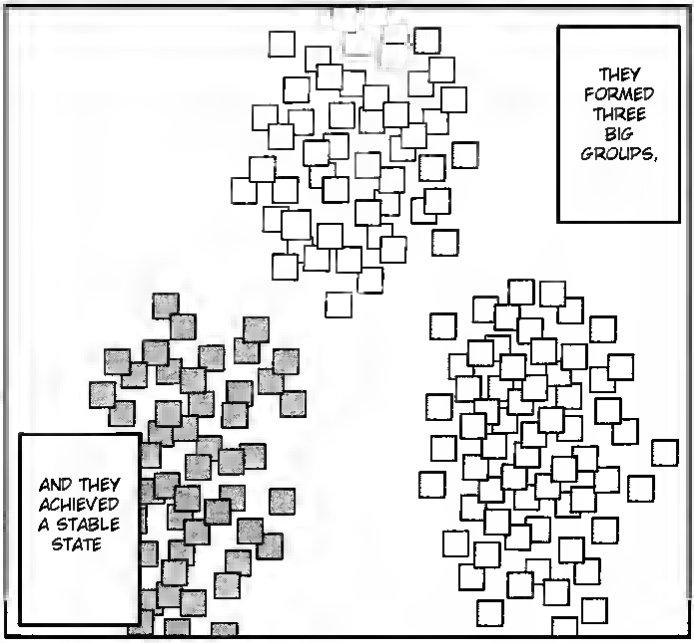
ABOUT A WEEK AGO...
焼
EVA SAID THAT SOMETHING STRANGE WAS GOING ON.


AT FIRST THE ARTIFICIAL LIFE SIMULATION WENT SMOOTHLY, FORMING CLANS ..
WHICH MIGRATED TOGETHER THEY LIVED TOGETHER AND FOUGHT TOGETHER AS A GROUP

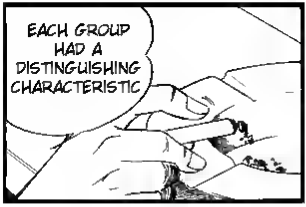

THE UNITS WERE GIVEN FOUR COMMANDS...


1. Don't overestimate your own ability
2. Command weaker units and obey stronger units
3. Find a good breeding ground
4. Reproduce to avoid extinction

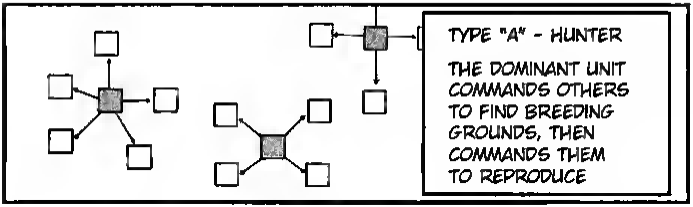

IN THE END, AFTER SEVERAL GENER-ATIONS...
WE WANTED TO SEE WHICH UNITS COULD SURVIVE AND BUILD A COMMUNITY
SOME UNITS WERE TAME AND OTHERS WERE FIERCE,
SO NEW GENERATIONS WOULD FORM QUICKLY. WE WANTED TO SEE THE RESULTS QUICKLY
THE UNITS' LIFESPAN WAS SET AT THREE DAYS,

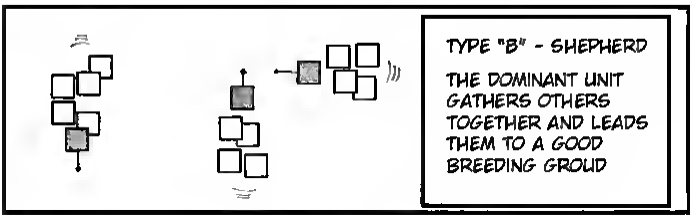

THEY FORMED THREE BIG GROUPS,
AND THEY ACHIEVED A STABLE STATE

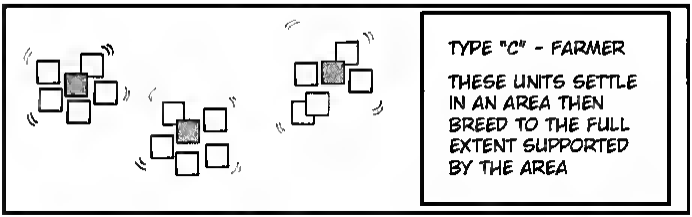
MAYBE...


EACH GROUP HAD A DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTIC

IN THE HUMAN WORLD, THAT'S LIKE A DIVERSE SOCIETY WITH DIFFERENT CULTURES AND RELIGIONS LIVING TOGETHER


TYPE "A" - HUNTER
THE DOMINANT UNIT COMMANDS OTHERS TO FIND BREEDING GROUNDS, THEN COMMANDS THEM TO REPRODUCE


TYPE "B" - SHEPHERD
THE DOMINANT UNIT GATHERS OTHERS TOGETHER AND LEADS THEM TO A GOOD BREEDING GROUD


TYPE "C" - FARMER
THESE UNITS SETTLE IN AN AREA THEN BREED TO THE FULL EXTENT SUPPORTED BY THE AREA

BUT ONE DAY...
SOMETHING HAPPENED!!
A DREAM OF MAN-KIND
THEIR EVOLUTION MADE A PERFECT WORLD
THE THREE "COUNTRIES" HAD A STABLE RELATION-SHIP
AND THERE WAS PEACE AND HARMONY

COUNTRY "A" SUDDENLY ...

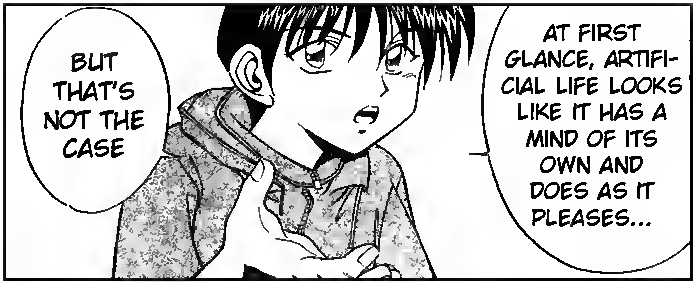
STARTED INVADING THE OTHER TWO COUNTRIES!!

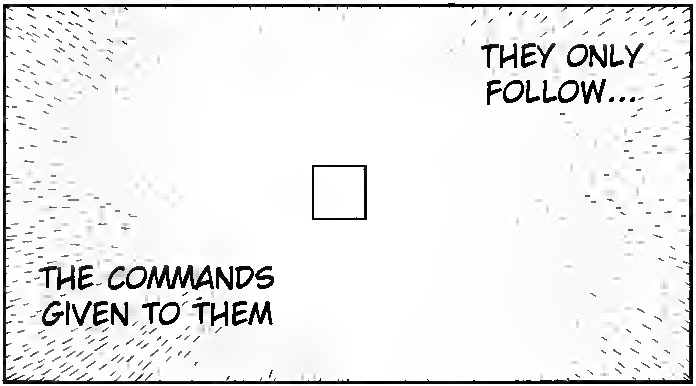
War!?
This is...
Why did they suddenly wage war?
Why!? They were supposed to be in equilibrium!!
R-Right!!
Stop it!!
Why did Country "A" try to drive out the other two countries?
Eh?
The password!
Chief Eva!

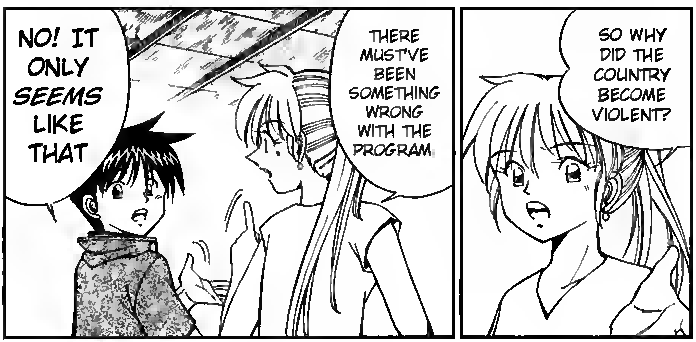
Ah ...
You're the only one who can command them!
You set a password, right!?
To prevent the clans from being interfered with...
TAKKA TAKKA
That's right! Give me that!
WE COULD FIND OUT THE CAUSE LATER
THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO STOP THE WAR...
WE WANTED TO INVESTI-GATE IT, BUT WE COULDN'T
WE DON'T KNOW
SO WHAT CAUSED IT?

THE NEXT MORNING ALL THE CLAN DATA
File not found
HAD DISAP-PEARED FROM THE COMP-UTER
What on Earth... Why did this happen?

I don't know where they got in...
but someone illegally accessed our system
Look at this!
We were hacked!?
SOUNDS LIKE A SCI-FI MOVIE I WATCHED A WHILE AGO!
AHHH
AND WHILE WE PANICKED, THE PROBLEM SPREAD TO JAPAN
EVA WAS DETAINED BY THE CIA THE DAY AFTER THAT
THAT'S DIFFER-ENT
THAT'S THE SAME, RIGHT?
THE COMPUTERS CAME ALIVE AND HAD MINDS OF THEIR OWN!
ビール 400
400

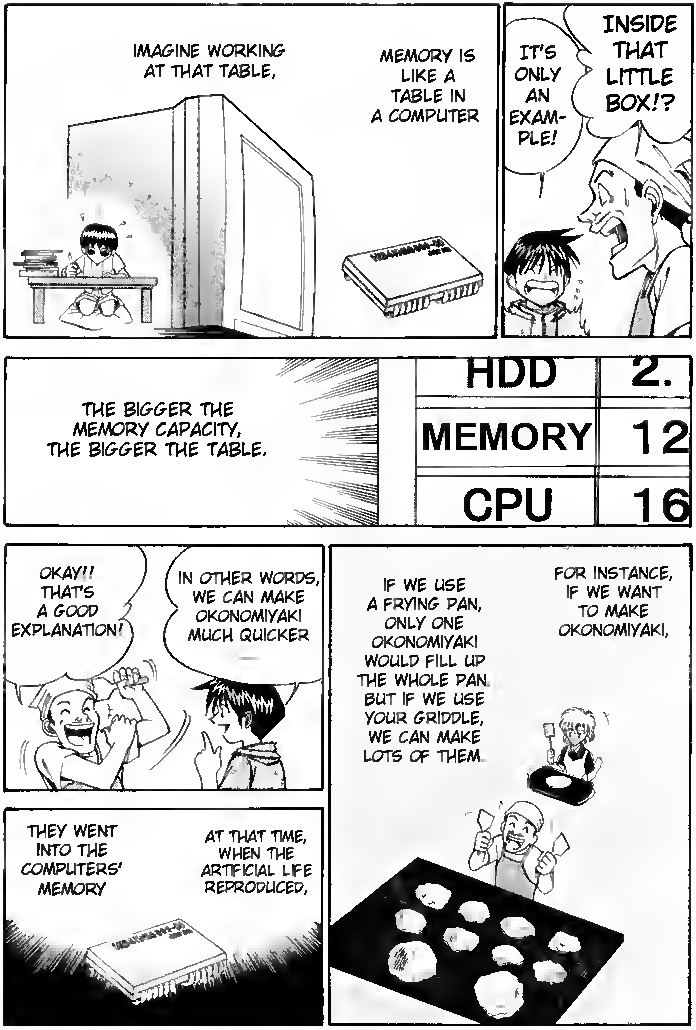

AT FIRST GLANCE, ARTIFICIAL LIFE LOOKS LIKE IT HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN AND DOES AS IT PLEASES...
BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE


THEY ONLY FOLLOW...
THE COMMANDS GIVEN TO THEM


SO WHY DID THE COUNTRY BECOME VIOLENT?
THERE MUST'VE BEEN SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE PROGRAM
NO! IT ONLY *SEEMS* LIKE THAT

3. Find a good breeding ground
4. Reproduce to avoid extinction

TWO OF THE COMMANDS GIVEN TO THE UNITS WERE...
JUST BY FOLLOWING THOSE ORDERS TO REPRODUCE
THE CLANS ENTERED THE COMPUTERS' MEMORY AND CAUSED A SYSTEM CRASH
WHAT'S COMPUTER MEMORY?
COMPUTER MEMORY IS BASICALLY LIKE THIS GRIDDLE
LIKE A GRID-DLE?
SERIOUSLY, WHAT'S COMPUTER MEMORY!?


IMAGINE WORKING AT THAT TABLE,
MEMORY IS LIKE A TABLE IN A COMPUTER
IT'S ONLY AN EXAMPLE!
INSIDE THAT LITTLE BOX!?
THE BIGGER THE MEMORY CAPACITY, THE BIGGER THE TABLE.
HDD 2.
MEMORY 12
CPU 16
OKAY!! THAT'S A GOOD EXPLANATION!
IN OTHER WORDS, WE CAN MAKE OKONOMIYAKI MUCH QUICKER
IF WE USE A FRYING PAN, ONLY ONE OKONOMIYAKI WOULD FILL UP THE WHOLE PAN. BUT IF WE USE YOUR GRIDDLE, WE CAN MAKE LOTS OF THEM.
FOR INSTANCE, IF WE WANT TO MAKE OKONOMIYAKI,
THEY WENT INTO THE COMPUTERS' MEMORY
AT THAT TIME, WHEN THE ARTIFICIAL LIFE REPRODUCED,

IF SOMEONE STARTED USING YOUR GRIDDLE AND THEY KEPT MAKING PANCAKES
No!!!
FOR INSTANCE, IMAGINE...
RIGHT!
THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE MORE OKONOMIYAKI!!
HOORAY!!
UNTIL THE WHOLE GRIDDLE WAS FILLED WITH PANCAKES.
JUST LIKE HOW THE SYSTEM CRASHED YESTERDAY
YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RUN YOUR BUSINESS
AND THAT CHAOS ENDED TODAY
お好
OJI-SAN, IT'S JUST A HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION...!
WHAT KIND OF BASTARD WOULD DO THAT!?

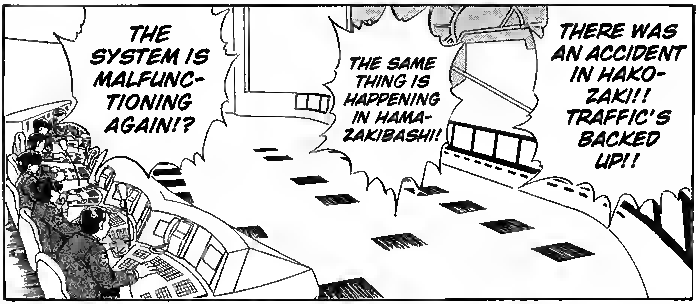
COUNTING FROM SATURDAY, TODAY'S THE THIRD DAY. WILL THEY ALL DIE?
THE UNITS WERE PROGRAMMED TO ONLY LIVE FOR THREE DAYS,
IS THAT SO?
OH! THEN IT'S FINE!
4. Reproduce to avoid extinction
THE FOURTH COMMAND WAS...
THEY WILL DEFINITELY FOLLOW THAT COMMAND.
IF NOT, THEY WILL GO EXTINCT
THE UNITS IN THE MEMORY MUST BE ABLE TO REPRODUCE,

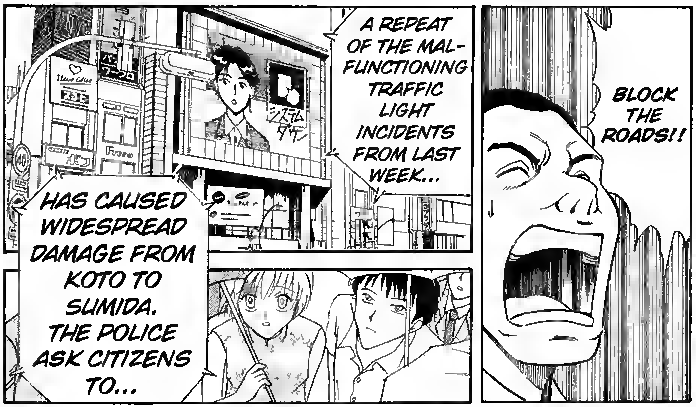
IT FEELS LIKE...
WE OVER-LOOKED SOME-THING...

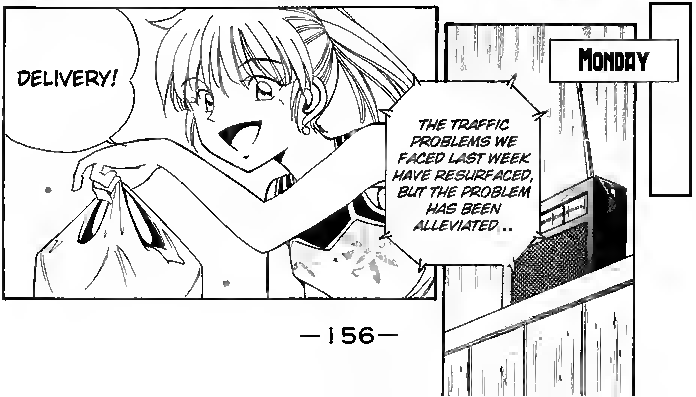
GOD WILL DEFINITELY GIVE YOU THE PROMISED LAND,

KEEP SEARCHING FOR THAT LAND

翌・土曜日
THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS ARE MALFUNC-TIONING AGAIN!?
WHAT'S GOING ON?!?
AH!

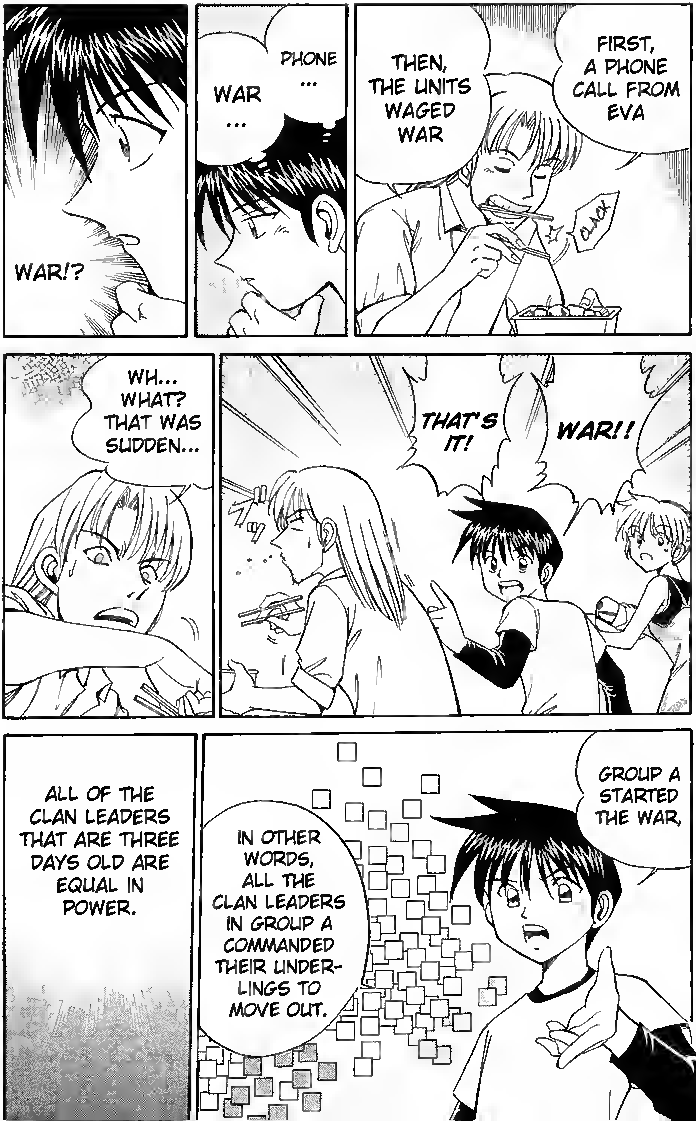

THE SYSTEM IS MALFUNCTIONING AGAIN!?
THE SAME THING IS HAPPENING IN HAMAZAKIBASHI!
THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT IN HAKOZAKI!! TRAFFIC'S BACKED UP!!

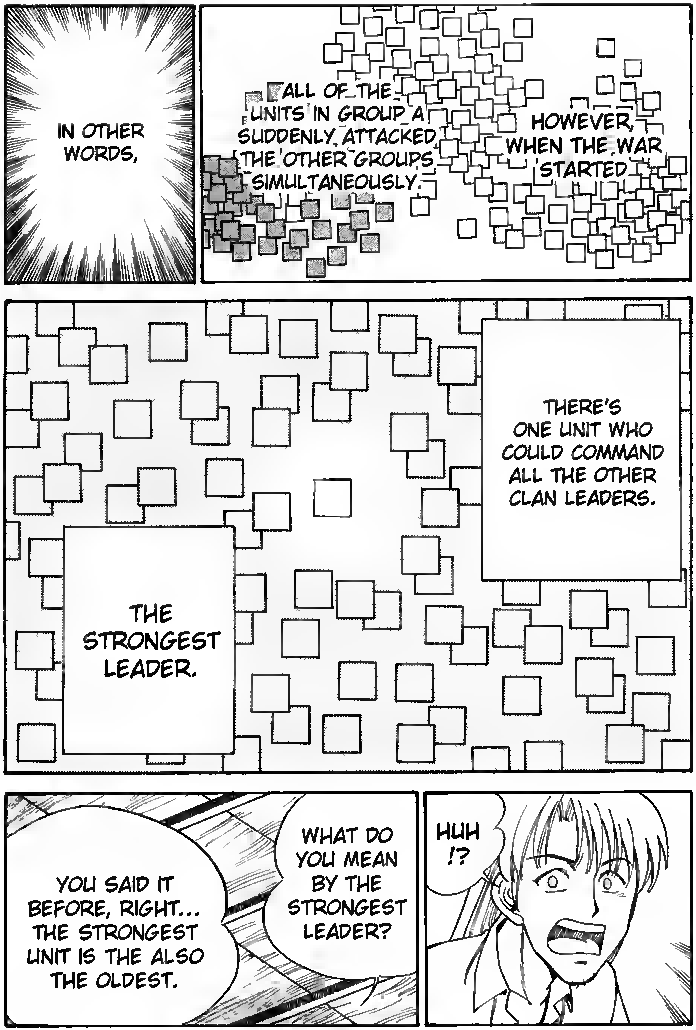

A REPEAT OF THE MALFUNCTIONING TRAFFIC LIGHT INCIDENTS FROM LAST WEEK...
HAS CAUSED WIDESPREAD DAMAGE FROM KOTO TO SUMIDA. THE POLICE ASK CITIZENS TO...
BLOCK THE ROADS!!

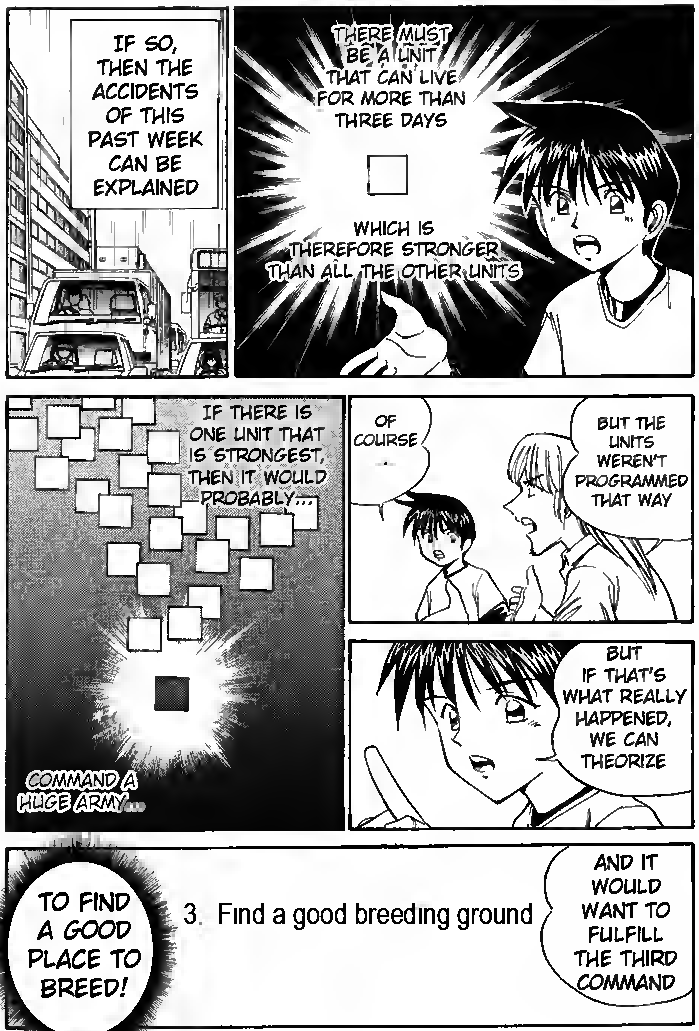

DELIVERY!
MONDAY
THE TRAFFIC PROBLEMS WE FACED LAST WEEK HAVE RESURFACED, BUT THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN ALLEVIATED..

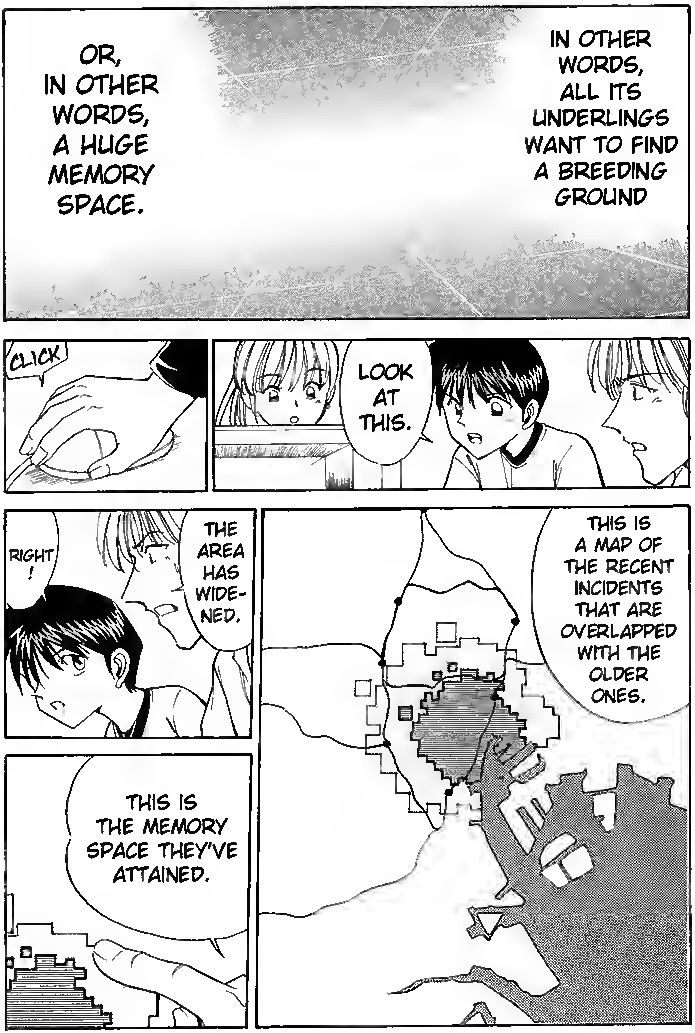
SO MESSY!
WAH!
SO THAT'S IT?
THE MESS OUTSIDE HAS GOTTEN BETTER, BUT THE MESS IN HERE IS GETTING WORSE...
IN OTHER WORDS, THE OLDER THE UNIT IS, THE STRONGER IT GETS
YEAH ...
2 Command the weaker units and obey the stronger ones
FOR THE SECOND COMMAND
STRENGTH IS DETER-MINED BY AGE

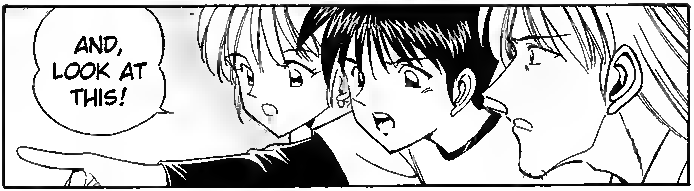
THE CLAN DATA THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO DISAPPEAR LAST MONDAY SUDDENLY APPEARED ON SATURDAY. AND ON MONDAY IT DISAPPEARED AGAIN...
BUT I DON'T UNDER-STAND,
THANKS.
LET'S EAT!
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
IT APPEARS ON SATURDAY, THEN DISAPPEARS ON MONDAY
.....
THIS ONE IS TOUMA-KUN'S.
LET'S RETHINK THIS FROM THE BEGINNING

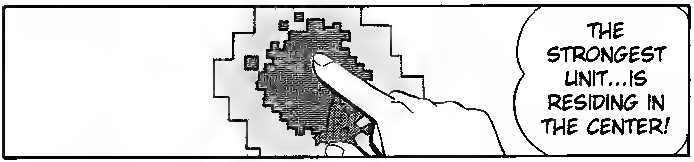

WAR!?
WAR ...
PHONE ...
THEN, THE UNITS WAGED WAR
FIRST, A PHONE CALL FROM EVA
CHOMP
WH... WHAT? THAT WAS SUDDEN...
THAT'S IT!
WAR!!
ALL OF THE CLAN LEADERS THAT ARE THREE DAYS OLD ARE EQUAL IN POWER.
IN OTHER WORDS, ALL THE CLAN LEADERS IN GROUP A COMMANDED THEIR UNDER-LINGS TO MOVE OUT.
GROUP A STARTED THE WAR,

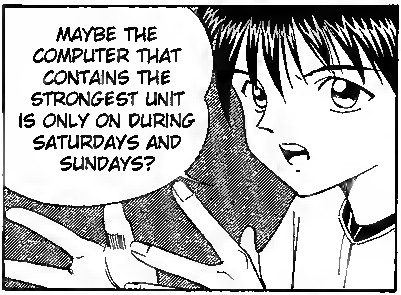

IN OTHER WORDS,
ALL OF THE UNITS IN GROUP A SUDDENLY ATTACKED THE OTHER GROUPS SIMULTANEOUSLY.
HOWEVER, WHEN THE WAR STARTED
THERE'S ONE UNIT WHO COULD COMMAND ALL THE OTHER CLAN LEADERS.
THE STRONGEST LEADER.
YOU SAID IT BEFORE, RIGHT... THE STRONGEST UNIT IS THE ALSO THE OLDEST.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THE STRONGEST LEADER?
HUH !?

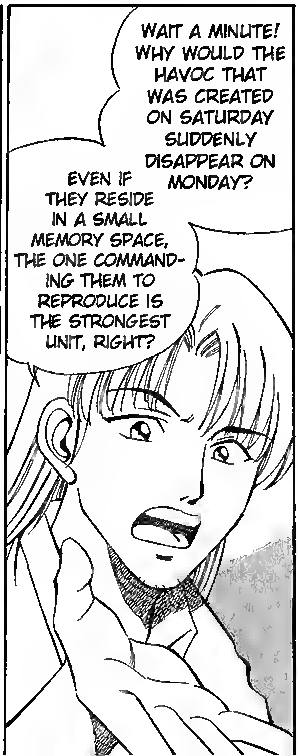

IF SO, THEN THE ACCIDENTS OF THIS PAST WEEK CAN BE EXPLAINED
THERE MUST BE A UNIT THAT CAN LIVE FOR MORE THAN THREE DAYS
WHICH IS THEREFORE STRONGER THAN ALL THE OTHER UNITS
IF THERE IS ONE UNIT THAT IS STRONGEST, THEN IT WOULD PROBABLY...
COMMAND A HUGE ARMY...
OF COURSE...
BUT THE UNITS WEREN'T PROGRAMMED THAT WAY
BUT IF THAT'S WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, WE CAN THEORIZE
TO FIND A GOOD PLACE TO BREED!
3. Find a good breeding ground
AND IT WOULD WANT TO FULFILL THE THIRD COMMAND

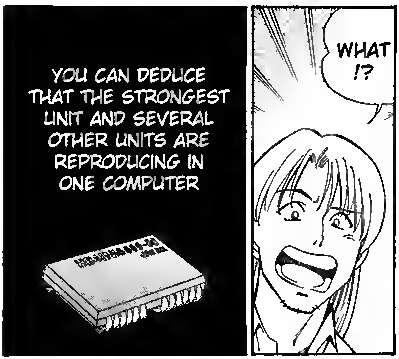

IN OTHER WORDS, ALL ITS UNDERLINGS WANT TO FIND A BREEDING GROUND
OR, IN OTHER WORDS, A HUGE MEMORY SPACE.
CLICK
LOOK AT THIS.
THE AREA HAS WIDE-NED.
RIGHT !
THIS IS A MAP OF THE RECENT INCIDENTS THAT ARE OVERLAPPED WITH THE OLDER ONES.
THIS IS THE MEMORY SPACE THEY'VE ATTAINED.

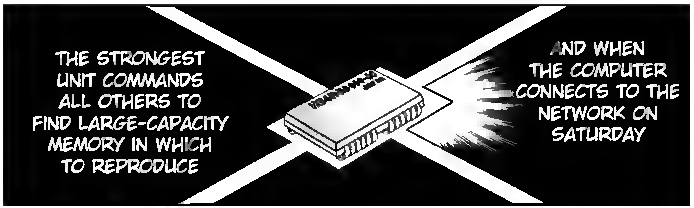

AND, LOOK AT THIS!

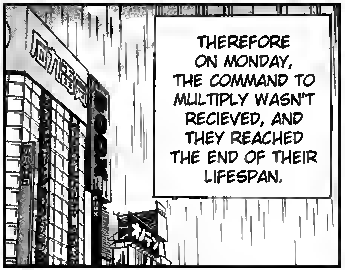

THE STRONGEST UNIT...IS RESIDING IN THE CENTER!

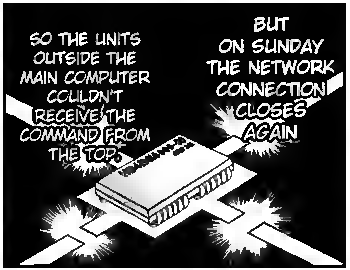

MAYBE THE COMPUTER THAT CONTAINS THE STRONGEST UNIT IS ONLY ON DURING SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS?


WAIT A MINUTE! WHY WOULD THE HAVOC THAT WAS CREATED ON SATURDAY SUDDENLY DISAPPEAR ON MONDAY?
EVEN IF THEY RESIDE IN A SMALL MEMORY SPACE, THE ONE COMMANDING THEM TO REPRODUCE IS THE STRONGEST UNIT, RIGHT?

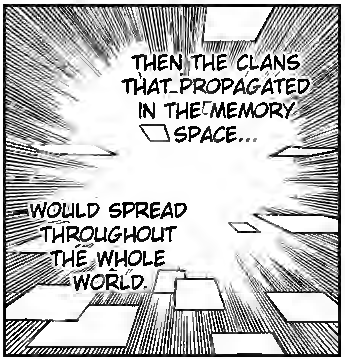

YOU CAN DEDUCE THAT THE STRONGEST UNIT AND SEVERAL OTHER UNITS ARE REPRODUCING IN ONE COMPUTER
WHAT !?

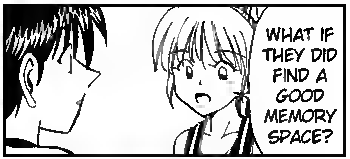

THE STRONGEST UNIT COMMANDS ALL OTHERS TO FIND LARGE-CAPACITY MEMORY IN WHICH TO REPRODUCE
AND WHEN THE COMPUTER CONNECTS TO THE NETWORK ON SATURDAY

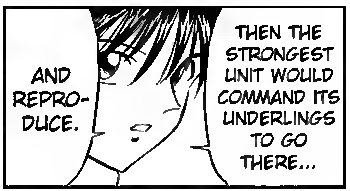

THEREFORE ON MONDAY, THE COMMAND TO MULTIPLY WASN'T RECIEVED, AND THEY REACHED THE END OF THEIR LIFESPAN.


SO THE UNITS OUTSIDE THE MAIN COMPUTER COULDN'T RECEIVE THE COMMAND FROM THE TOP.
BUT ON SUNDAY THE NETWORK CONNECTION CLOSES AGAIN

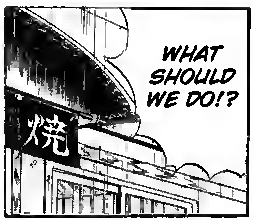
HMM ...
THIS CYCLE WILL KEEP GOING ON UNTIL THEY FIND A HUGE MEMORY SPACE.

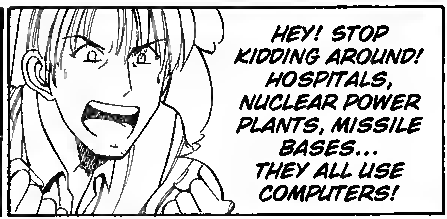

THEN THE CLANS THAT PROPAGATED IN THE MEMORY SPACE...
WOULD SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD.


WHAT IF THEY DID FIND A GOOD MEMORY SPACE?

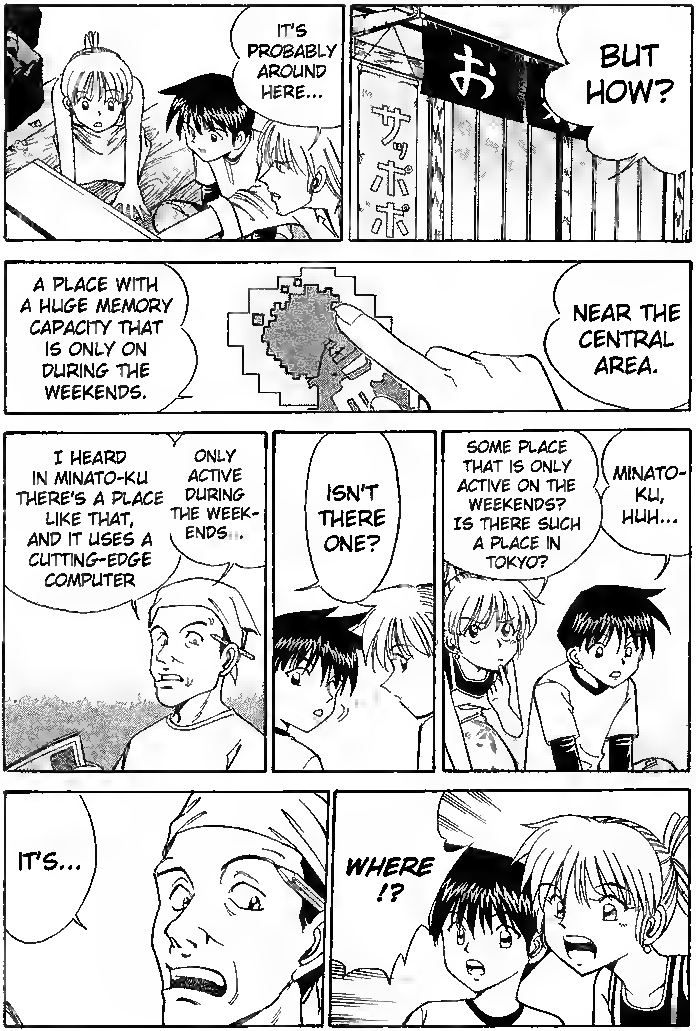

AND REPRO-DUCE.
THEN THE STRONGEST UNIT WOULD COMMAND ITS UNDERLINGS TO GO THERE...

ALL THE COMPUTER SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD.
AND CRASH


焼
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?


HEY! STOP KIDDING AROUND! HOSPITALS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, MISSILE BASES... THEY ALL USE COMPUTERS!

FIND THE STRONGEST UNIT AND CAPTURE IT!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING WE NEED TO DO...


IT'S PROBABLY AROUND HERE...
BUT HOW?
サッポロ
A PLACE WITH A HUGE MEMORY CAPACITY THAT IS ONLY ON DURING THE WEEKENDS.
NEAR THE CENTRAL AREA.
I HEARD IN MINATO-KU THERE'S A PLACE LIKE THAT, AND IT USES A CUTTING-EDGE COMPUTER
ONLY ACTIVE DURING THE WEEK-ENDS...
ISN'T THERE ONE?
SOME PLACE THAT IS ONLY ACTIVE ON THE WEEKENDS? IS THERE SUCH A PLACE IN TOKYO?
MINATO-KU, HUH...
IT'S...
WHERE!?

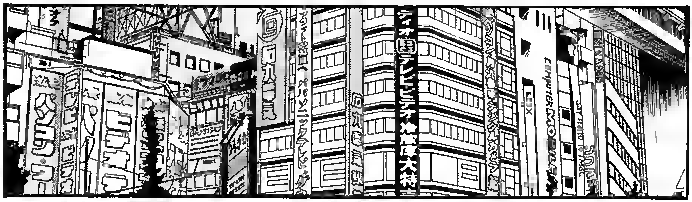
HAA
HAA

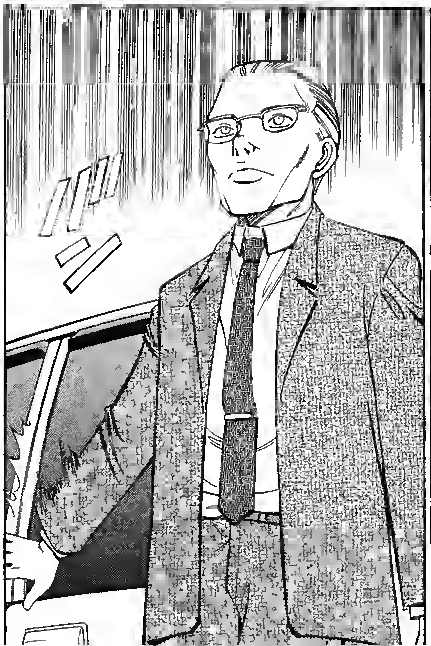
BECAUSE I LOST HIM AT THE AIRPORT, I'M IN TROUBLE...
YAAA-AAWN ...
I'VE BEEN KEEPING WATCH, BUT LOK! STILL HASN'T APPEARED YET
OK, OK! NO PARKING, RIGHT? I'LL LEAVE RIGHT N...
TAP TAP
HI!

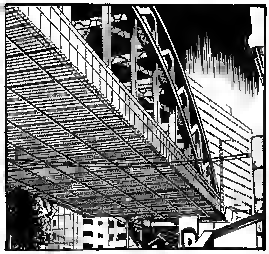
HOW ABOUT WE TIE UP ALL THE LOOSE STRINGS NOW?
FINALLY, FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE ABYSS...
THE TRUTH HAS REVEALED ITSELF.
WHY DID THE CLANS WAGE WAR?
HOW DID THE CLANS BYPASS THE FIREWALL AND ESCAPE TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD?
AND THE BIGGEST QUESTION IS...
THE STRONGEST UNIT THAT ACTS AS THE HIGHEST LEADER...
HOW WAS IT EVEN CREATED ...!?

Q.E.D_

CLICK

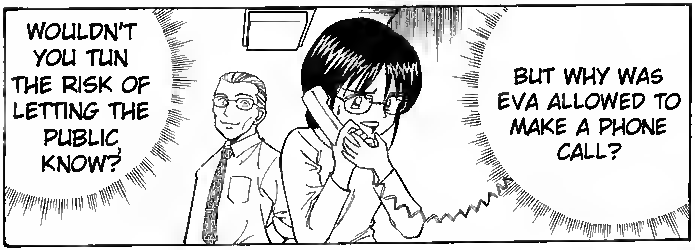


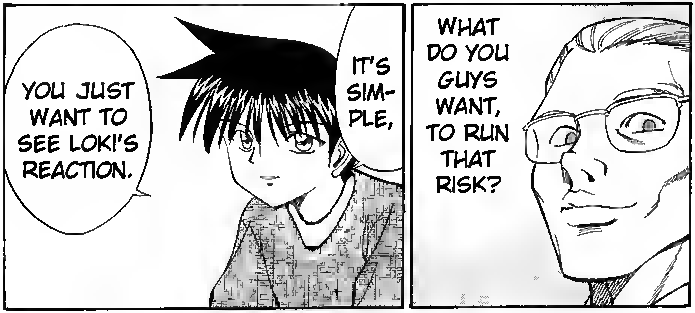


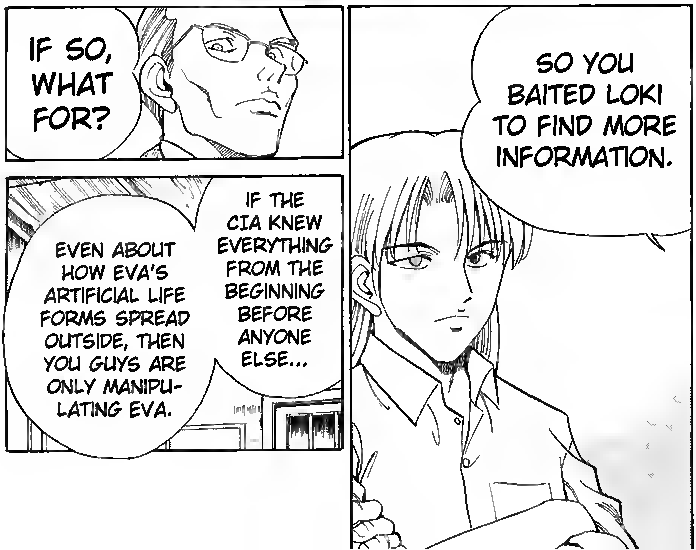


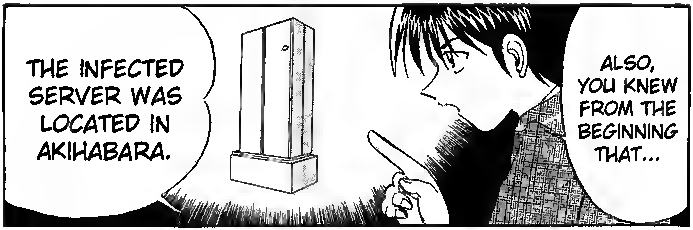
サッポロ
の 好 み 焼
TAP
WEL-
COME!
...
ビール
やきそば
スッ
I'M SURE
THIS CON-
VERSATION
WILL BE
WORTH-
WHILE
COMING
HERE ALL
THE WAY
FROM
AMERICA...
WHAT AN
INTER-
ESTING
PLACE!

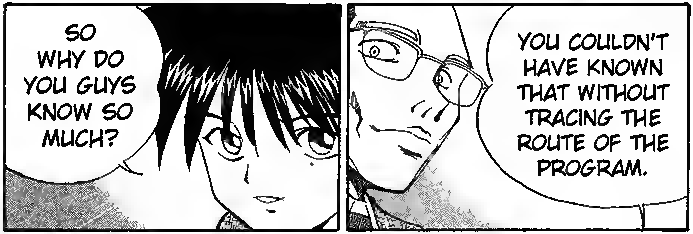
I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME...
YOU MIGHT NOT THINK IT, BUT I'M VERY IMPATIENT. SO DON'T WASTE MY TIME.
I HOPE THIS CONVERSATION WILL PROVE USEFUL.
FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FRIEND...
OTHERWISE, YOU'LL PAY FOR REVEALING YOUR WHEREABOUTS!
NO, IT'S YOU WHO WILL DEFINITELY PAY!
HMM... INTERESTING.
YOU GUYS FROM THE CIA INVESTIGATED THIS MATTER BEHIND THE SCENES TO CONCEAL IT FROM THE PUBLIC,
IF YOU HADN'T, EVA'S NAME AND PHOTO WOULD HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPERS, RIGHT?
THIS INVESTIGATION MUST'VE BEEN TOP SECRET.


WOULDN'T YOU TUN THE RISK OF LETTING THE PUBLIC KNOW?
BUT WHY WAS EVA ALLOWED TO MAKE A PHONE CALL?

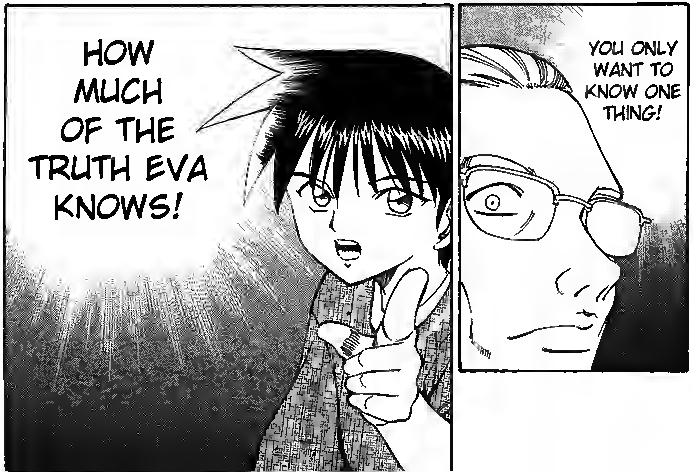

YOU JUST WANT TO SEE LOKI'S REACTION.
IT'S SIM-PLE,
WHAT DO YOU GUYS WANT, TO RUN THAT RISK?


IF SO, WHAT FOR?
SO YOU BAITED LOKI TO FIND MORE INFORMATION.
EVEN ABOUT HOW EVA'S ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORMS SPREAD OUTSIDE, THEN YOU GUYS ARE ONLY MANIPU-LATING EVA.
IF THE CIA KNEW EVERYTHING FROM THE BEGINNING BEFORE ANYONE ELSE...

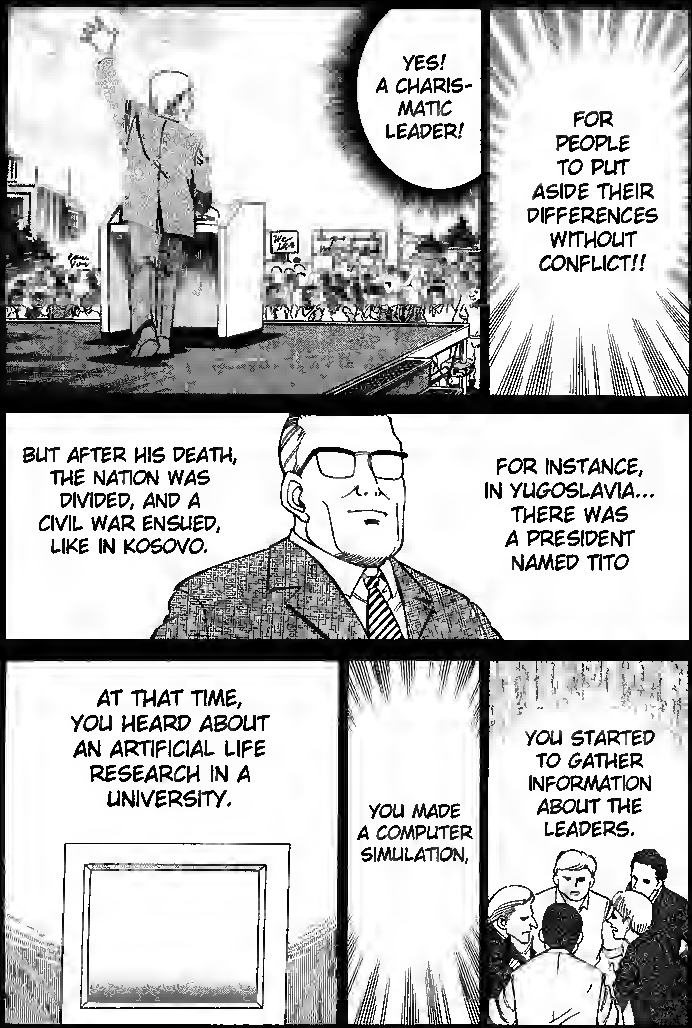

THE INFECTED SERVER WAS LOCATED IN AKIHABARA.
ALSO, YOU KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING THAT...


SO WHY DO YOU GUYS KNOW SO MUCH?
YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN THAT WITHOUT TRACING THE ROUTE OF THE PROGRAM.

IS IT BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO KNOW THE TRUTH? NO! THAT'S NOT IT!
THEN AGAIN, EVEN THOUGH YOU KNEW EVERY-THING, YOU STILL ARRESTED EVA AND INVOLVED LOKI


HOW MUCH OF THE TRUTH EVA KNOWS!
YOU ONLY WANT TO KNOW ONE THING!

WHAT IF IT'S LIKE THIS?
SO WHAT?
HA HA HA!
WITH THE FALL OF THE SOVIET UNION, THE COLD WAR TENSION SLOWLY MELTED AWAY,
BUT NOW PLACES LIKE RUSSIA, SOMALIA, AND YUGOSLAVIA ARE PLAGUED WITH ETHNIC CONFLICTS
AMERICA, THE SELF-STYLED WORLD'S POLICE, MEDDLED IN THOSE CONFLICTS
AND MANIPULATED THE CONFLICTS WITH MILITARY POWER
BUT CONFLICTS LIKE THESE ARE NUMEROUS,
AND AMERICA LACKS THE POWER TO MEDDLE IN ALL OF THESE AFFAIRS.
ISN'T THERE ANY WAY TO RESOLVE ALL THESE DISPUTES?


YES! A CHARISMATIC LEADER!
FOR PEOPLE TO PUT ASIDE THEIR DIFFERENCES WITHOUT CONFLICT!!
BUT AFTER HIS DEATH, THE NATION WAS DIVIDED, AND A CIVIL WAR ENSUED, LIKE IN KOSOVO.
FOR INSTANCE, IN YUGOSLAVIA... THERE WAS A PRESIDENT NAMED TITO
AT THAT TIME, YOU HEARD ABOUT AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE RESEARCH IN A UNIVERSITY.
YOU MADE A COMPUTER SIMULATION,
YOU STARTED TO GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LEADERS.

BUT SOMETHING UNTHINKABLE HAPPENED.

AND IT GREW STRONGER THAN ALL THE OTHERS. IT HAD THE AUTHORITY TO COMMAND THE OTHERS

THE LEADER WAS PROGRAMMED TO LIVE LONGER THAN EVERYONE ELSE

AS THE SUPREME LEADER, THE STRONGEST UNIT ATTACKED THE OTHER UNITS TO GET MORE BREEDING GROUND

WAR!

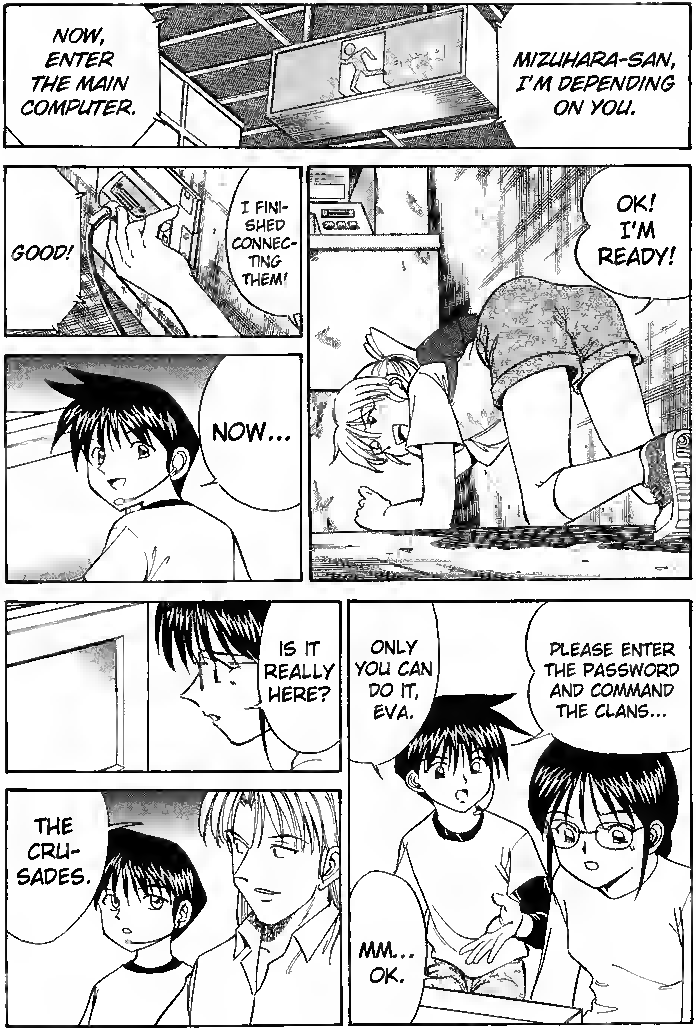
TO GATHER THE DATA, YOU INFILTRATED EVA'S COMPUTER.
SADLY, THE RESEARCH WAS STOPPED.
YOU INFILTRATED IT FROM JAPAN.
SO THAT YOU COULDN'T BE TRACED DIRECTLY,
ACCIDENTS BEGAN TO OCCURRED IN JAPAN.
UNFORTUNATELY, SOMETHING WENT WRONG,
AND THE FILE WAS TEMPORARILY STORED IN A SERVER IN AKIHABARA.
THE SECRET MIGHT BE REVEALED.
THE SITUATION SOON BECAME COMPLICATED!

SHE MUST BE INVESTI-GATED!
SHE MUST KNOW SOMETHING!
SHE'S THE HEAD OF THE RESEARCH IN ONE OF THE TOP TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTES IN THE WORLD, MIT...
WHAT ABOUT EVA?
WHICH LETS YOU PUT ALL THE BLAME ON EVA
AND AS YOU CAN SEE, EVA WAS ARRESTED AND LOKI GOT INVOLVED.
WE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE INCIDENT THANKS TO OUR INTELLIGENCE NETWORK. DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE CIA.
THAT'S JUST PLAIN SPECULATION.
HMM ...
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT...
I SEE

YOU SHOULD USE YOUR INTELLI-GENCE NET-WORK...
TO CAPTURE THAT STRONGEST UNIT!
AFTER GATHERING THAT MUCH INFORMATION, DON'T TELL ME THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU GUYS!
IF YOU DON'T, I DON'T KNOW WHAT KINDS OF CONSEQUENCES YOU WILL FACE LATER.
YOU THINK YOU CAN THREATEN ME!?
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT MESSING WITH ME!

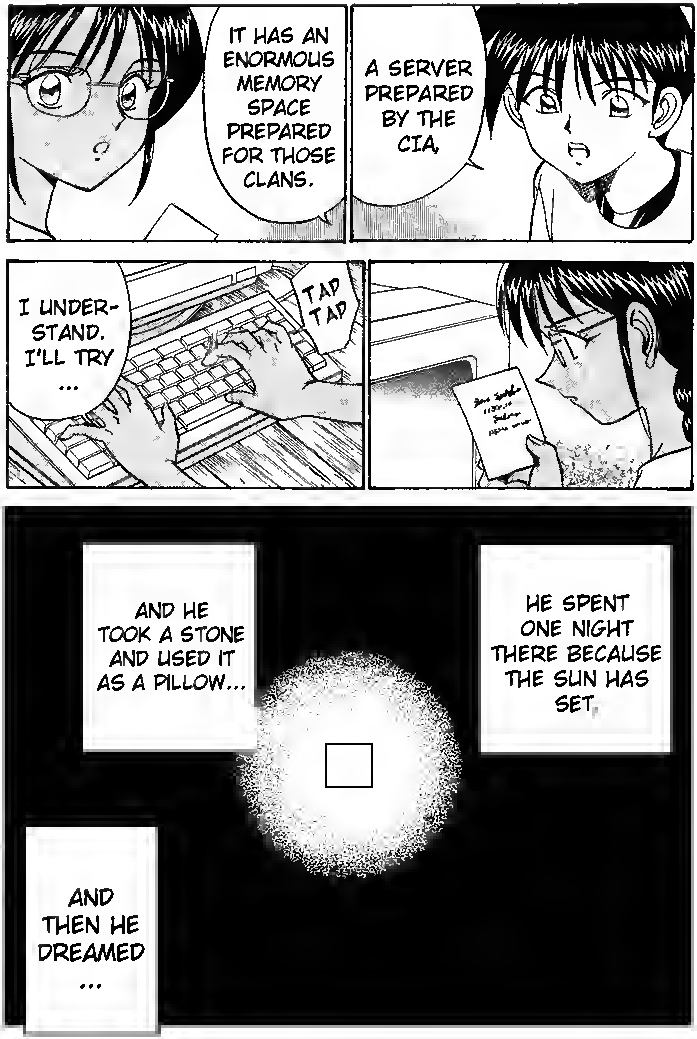
I CAN HELP.
LET'S NEGO-TIATE.
!
PLEASE PREPARE SOME-THING...
RE-LEASE EVA...
OH, AND ONE MORE THING...

THIS PLACE IS ONLY OPEN DURING THE WEEK-ENDS.
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
THE HORSE-RACING TRACK...
A COMPUTER WITH HUGE CAPACITY THAT'S ONLY OPERATIONAL DURING THE WEEKENDS.
THE MAIN SERVER IS LOCATED IN MINATO-KU.
YOU CAN NOW PLACE BETS THROUGH THE INTERNET,


NOW, ENTER THE MAIN COMPUTER.
MIZUHARA-SAN, I'M DEPENDING ON YOU.
GOOD!
I FINISHED CONNECTING THEM!
OK! I'M READY!
NOW...
IS IT REALLY HERE?
ONLY YOU CAN DO IT, EVA.
PLEASE ENTER THE PASSWORD AND COMMAND THE CLANS...
THE CRUSADES.
MM... OK.

IT WAS A HOLY WAR TO GET TO THE PROMISED LAND.
BUT IT WASN'T ANY ORDINARY WAR,
THE STRONGEST UNIT STARTED THE WAR TO FIND BREEDING GROUND
JACOB'S LADDER, FROM THE BIBLE...
AND WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW IS LIKE...
LAND THAT WILL BRING PROSPERITY.
JACOB RECEIVED A COMMAND FROM GOD TO SEARCH FOR THE HOLY LAND,
JACOB WAS A DESCENDANT OF EVE, RIGHT?
TO THE UNITS, EVA WAS THEIR CREATOR,

TO OPEN A WAY TO HEAVEN ...
AND THE CREATOR SPOKE AGAIN,
THERE!
AH!
EVA, PLEASE TELL THOSE UNITS TO MOVE HERE.
THEY'RE REALLY HERE!
HERE?


IT HAS AN ENORMOUS MEMORY SPACE PREPARED FOR THOSE CLANS.
A SERVER PREPARED BY THE CIA,
I UNDER-STAND. I'LL TRY ...
TAP TAP
AND HE TOOK A STONE AND USED IT AS A PILLOW...
HE SPENT ONE NIGHT THERE BECAUSE THE SUN HAS SET.
AND THEN HE DREAMED ...

OF A STAIRCASE EXTENDING INTO THE HEAVENS.
HE SAW ANGELS GO UP AND DOWN THE STAIRCASE.

GOD STOOD BY HIS SIDE AND SAID...
TAP TAP TAP
.....
IS THAT SO...
ALL THE UNITS HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED.
THANK-FULLY, THERE WAS A GOOD SPOT.
RIGHT ON TIME.
FIVE MORE MINU-TES

THOSE UNITS WERE TRANSFERRED TO A SATELLITE THAT'S NOT USED ANYMORE.
THE SATELLITE WILL FALL DOWN ON EARTH AND WILL TURN TO DUST WHEN IT RE-ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE
.....
ALL PROOF ...
WILL DIS-APP-EAR ...
IT WILL FALL SOON ...

IT ONLY LOOKS LIKE THAT.
ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORMS DON'T MOVE BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN WILL,
LOKI ...
HOW CRUEL. THOSE UNITS ONLY WANTED TO LIVE.
ゴゴゴゴ
THEY'RE JUST COMPUTER PROGRAMS BOUND BY A SET OF RULES.
I AM THE GOD OF YOUR FOREFATHER, ABRAHAM, AND YOUR FATHER, ISAAC...
YOU WILL BEQUEATH THIS LAND TO YOUR DESCENDANTS,
ゴゴゴゴ

I WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU. WHEREVER YOU GO, I WILL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU AND BRING YOU BACK TO THIS LAND.

あなたは、この本を読んで、どのような感想をおもちになりましたか。

このほかに、「講談社コミックス」の中で、どんな本を読まれましたか。

このつぎには、どんな作家の、どんなまんがを読みたいとお考えてすか。

コミックス編集の参考にさせていただきたいと思います。「読後の感想」と合わせて、左記のところあてにお知らせください。

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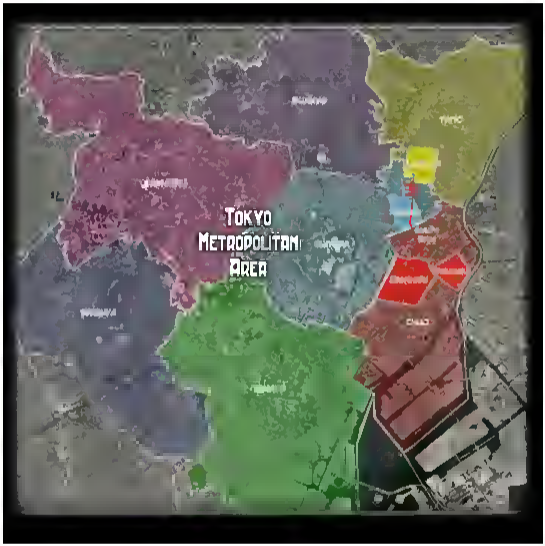
Map of Downtown Tokyo



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Jacob's Ladder # Part One

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Argentscarf, Saturn Beaver, BamBam
-- Typesetter: Ryuuyasha -- QC: Ryuuyasha --

IF YOU'RE GOING TO SAVE SOMEONE, FINISH WITH A FLOURISH!!
OR ATLEAST LOOK AWESOME DOING IT

THANKS TO ANZU & DRACO1988
FOR THE RAWS!!

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Jacob's Ladder: Part Two

-- Text Supplier: Lynossa -- Translator: BamBam --
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WHO NEEDS A MANUAL WHEN YOU GOT TOUMA NEAR YOU?

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Jacob's Ladder: Part Three

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Translator: BamBam -- Proofreader: Ritsu
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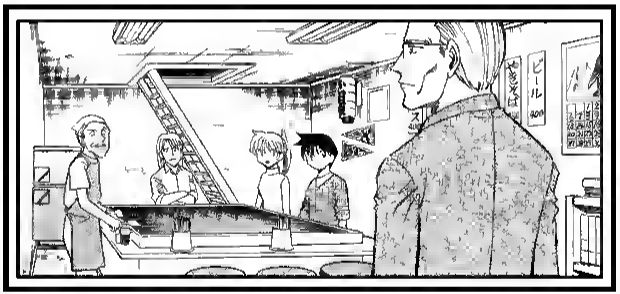
THAT'S WHERE THEY HIDE. IN THE OKINOMIYAKI SHOP
HOW COME YOU COULDN'T FIGURE IT OUT, MR. AGENT?



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